

WORKS IN PROGRESS

VOLUME 12, NUMBER 8

THURSTON COUNTY RAINBOW COALITION

DECEMBER 2001

Nothing says it's the Holiday Season like...

More Laws To Criminalize Poverty

Pat Tassoni

The Olympia City Council has recently proposed a number of ordinances targeting the poor in our community in an attempt to sanitize downtown into a shop-only area. These ordinances include a ban on car camping, a ban on camping, a trespassing ordinance that would allow the police or park personnel to bar an individual from entry to public parks for up to two months, a no panhandling zone and a no sale of fortified wine zone. The city has considered such items before (see below for list). The city claims it is responding to complaints from business' as presented by the Olympia Downtown Association and the Olympia Police, but has mainly heard from Panowitz Jewelers, Applebaum Violin Shop, Shoenfeld Furniture, Cooper Realty/Orca Construction in a not-at-all balanced panel presentation.

These ordinances are not only morally/ethically wrong but the City Council already admits there is not enough shelter to meet the needs of the home-

less, and still they want to take away some of the homeless' last resort for shelter when they sleep in their cars. **THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE!** The city should fund shelter, transitional and affordable housing instead so people don't have to sleep in their cars or outside. There are already laws that regulate enough public behavior the police can use if they need to. Expanding police powers to criminalize legal behavior will not be tolerated as a means to criminalize poverty and harass the homeless. These types of ordinances are being litigated elsewhere, so the city may waste a bunch of time and money on them (that could be spent on shelter/housing).

Then there is the whole debate on what public space is. It is indeed a sad commentary on our society if public space is only seen as a commercial venue and laws continue to be proposed and implemented to weed out the non-consumers (or in this case, the not-rich-enough-consumers). The reality is that these laws, while targetting an "expendable" class actually insult and infuriate many of the regulars who do spend time

and money downtown. With new laws like these, the difference between the downtown and the mall get ever smaller...

There is an organized response to show that the Olympia community and other Olympia downtown businesses do not support these draconian ordinances. There is a petition being circulated asking the city to respond to the perceived problem pro-actively, through the provision of services, rather than making poverty a crime. It broadly defines downtown as consisting of users, recreaters, tenants and shoppers to counter the perception that downtown is only a shopping district. Please sign the petition.

Safe and Viable Downtown

One reason being touted for these ordinances is to clean-up downtown and make it safe to draw in more customers to shop there. Is it just a coincidence that this is happening during the holiday shopping season? Downtown IS safe, just ask those who live, work, recreate, shop and hang-out there. The real issue is

(Continued page 15)

It's Time for Housing Fairness —

Discrimination Should be Illegal!

Wip News Service

Do You Know...

- * Your neighbor can be forced to move from or denied access to an apartment
- * Your colleague can be scared to be out for fear of retaliation
- * Your family member can be refused to bid on or purchase a house
- * Statistics generally show that 10% of the population is Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual or Transgendered — about 20,000 in Thurston County
- * There are approximately 2,000 people on the waiting list for assisted housing through the Housing Authority of Thurston County. The waiting list can be as long as 5 years.
- * A full-time worker in Thurston County needs to earn an average of at least \$13.77 per hour — more than twice the minimum wage — to afford the average 2-bedroom apartment.

Discrimination against lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgendered people is legal in Thurston County. Discrimina-

tion against low-income tenants who use a housing-subsidy to help pay their rent is legal as well. It is currently legal in Thurston County for landlords to refuse to rent to or force tenants in good standing out of their homes just because they are Gay or Lesbian. Discrimination against low-income tenants who use a housing-subsidy to help pay their rent is legal as well! As tenants, queers, and civil rights advocates we need to say: "No one should be denied housing because of who they are or what government programs they participate in!"

Non-Discrimination laws are enacted to protect classes of people from unfair treatment. These laws often lag behind community desires. The Cities of Lacey, Olympia, and Tumwater (in addition to cities all across the country) have passed into law protections based on Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity. Thurston County itself has no non-discrimination law, but is currently considering an enforceable ordinance that would include Sexual Orientation thanks to the hard and dedicated work of local civil rights advocates (see conpedium listing be-

low). This ordinance should also include protections against low-income renters who participate in the federal housing subsidy program that Tumwater, Seattle, King County and other jurisdictions have already. Many of our community's mentally disabled and physically disabled including those living with AIDS participate in housing subsidy programs as do many seniors. Some landlords use the housing-subsidy as an excuse to not rent to those they deem undesirable for other reasons. When passed this law would be of great benefit to the municipalities within Thurston County because none have an enforcement body.

Background

Use the following information to compose a letter of support to the Thurston County Commissioners (2000 Lakeridge Dr SW Olympia, WA 98502-6045)

Cathy Wolfe <wolfec@co.thurston.wa.us>
Kevin O'Sullivan <osullik@co.thurston.wa.us>
Diane Oberquell <oberqud@co.thurston.wa.us>

I'm writing to you to ask that you

(Continued page 14)

Olympia Peace Events

**Saturday, Dec 15th Noon-1pm
Peace Vigil at Percival Landing**

Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation invites the public to join its 26th annual Christmas Peace Vigil. We should work to promote joy and good will for everyone. The need is especially great during time of war — and during the holy seasons of Ramadan and Christmas. The vigil provides participants and passersby an opportunity to pause to consider substituting peace instead of violence. We provide signs, and you may also bring your own. Children are welcome (even encouraged!). We'll share refreshments and social time beginning when the vigil ends at 1:00 p.m. This year we'll gather either at the Family Support Center (2nd floor), State & Capitol Way — or if we anticipate a lot more people — we'll announce another larger location nearby. The usual social time and refreshments, we'll invite people to fast during all or any part of the next 24 hours (from 3 p.m. Saturday to 3 p.m. Sunday). The fast has three purposes:

- (1) It is in solidarity with Muslims who have been fasting during daylight hours during the holy month of Ramadan. (Ramadan will be ending approximately December 15.)
- (2) It is with empathy for people in Afghanistan and elsewhere who must fast involuntarily for lack of food
- (3) Fasting is a traditional way to focus oneself for spiritual reflection and a traditional way to witness to great injustice and repentance.

The Olympia FOR and the Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace (OMJP) invite everyone to spend some time during the 24 hours from 3 p.m. Saturday to 3 p.m. Sunday in any of several peace-making activities, such as e-mailing the government, writing a letter to the editor, conscientiously reflecting or praying, engaging another person in serious conversation about peace, or marking your calendar to participate in upcoming peace events (e.g., weekly Olympia FOR vigils, weekly OMJP meetings, New Year's Day peace march).

**Sunday, Dec. 16th at 3pm
Peace Event at First Christian
Church in Olympia**

FOR and OMJP invite all peace folks to participate in a time for conscientious reflection, sharing, and rededication to working for peace. Those who fasted during all or part of the previous 24 hours will break the fast when we all share refreshments.

For more information — or to offer your help — on any of these activities, please call Glen Anderson at the Olympia FOR at 491-9093.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Works In Progress is a community newspaper sponsored by the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Rainbow Coalition or the Workers In Progress and are solely those of the authors.

Submissions:

Correspondence, articles, art, and photographs are always welcome. Please, when possible, put articles on a 3.5" IBM-compatible disk (text preferred) or via e-mail. Artwork and photos should be camera-ready/black & white.

WIP reserves the right to publish in whole or part all submissions. For editing purposes, please enclose your phone number.

Articles may be reprinted. Please cite source.

If you don't see your issue being covered in Works In Progress, it's because you aren't writing about it! (Or aren't finding someone else to cover it!)

Send submissions to Works In Progress, PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507-0295, <wip@olywa.net>

Back Issues:

Get your catalog of indexed WIPs below. Some back issues are available in the Olympia Timberland Library. WIP is being archived on microfilm by the UW Library.

WORKERS IN PROGRESS

Tristan Baurick	Jerome Johnson
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Sebastian Chase	Hali Panneton
Tom Chenhall	Jeff Sowers
Renee Cruickshank	Sylvia Smith
Megan Davis	Pat Tassoni
Teresa Jennings	Alice Zillah

Mission Statement:

"Our aim is to confront injustice and encourage a participatory democracy based on economic, social, and environmental justice. Works In Progress is dedicated to providing a voice for those most affected by the exclusionary and unfair practices that seek to silence the oppressed."

Anti-Discrimination Clause:

We will collectively endeavor to be sensitive and respectful to all those oppressed in this society, and their issues. However, if and when we should make a mistake in this regard, we expect to acknowledge it and to express regret for injury or insult given.

Governing Tool:

The following statement will become part of the Editorial Policy and will be the governing tool for the Anti-Discrimination Clause: *WIP will make every effort to work with the contributor of material considered by WIP to be offensive in order to reach a mutually agreed upon resolution, but WIP reserves the right as a last resort to edit or not print submitted material.*

Letters, briefs, etc.

Protect Your Rights in the Event of a Military Draft

Thursday, December 6th
7pm at the Midnight Sun
113 N Columbia in Olympia

If the military draft were to return, would the young men you care about know how to protect their rights? A free informational session will explain how the draft would work and help young men make informed decisions. A similar session is tentatively scheduled for WEDNESDAY JANUARY 23rd at 5pm at The Evergreen State College. (The exact location will be set in early January. Call 491-9093 or look for on-campus publicity.)

If Congress were to give Bush authority to begin drafting people into the army today, a lottery of birthdays would be held tomorrow, the first draft notices could be sent out the next day, and you or someone you care about could be ordered to report for boot camp in as short as 10 days after that! Young men would have only a few days in which to exercise their rights or lose them forever, because applications for postponements, deferments, and exemptions are due within that very short time period. Carter brought back draft registration in 1980 after the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan. The draft regulations that were adopted in the early 1980s are very different from those of the Vietnam era.

Young men and their families deserve current information. The government is not expected to use the draft to force people into the army in the near future. Young men deserve to understand how the system would work so they can protect their rights and prepare themselves to exercise whatever options may exist.

The information session is co-sponsored by the Thurston County Draft Counseling Center (TCDCC) and the Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR). TCDCC was founded in 1980 when President Carter brought back draft registration. TCDCC provides information and confidential, non-directive counseling to help people protect their rights and make informed decisions. The Olympia FOR has worked nonviolently since 1976 on a variety of peace and social justice issues and is the local affiliate of a broadly interfaith, international pacifist organization founded in 1914. For information call Glen Anderson at (360) 491-9093.

Jim Hightower And Citizens Band - Telling It Like It Is

An evening of musings and music with the Texas wonder - Jim Hightower. Hightower is a diehard populist, author, and agitator who has worked in and outside of government building coalitions to protect family farms, community rights, and government programs that serve the people-not the corporations. Joining him for some introductory revelry will be Olympia's anarcoustic folk group, Citizens Band. Jim will be available for a book signing following his talk.

Friday, December 7th at 7pm
Olympia's historic Capitol
Theater, 206 East 5th avenue

Advance tickets are available from Rainy Day Records for \$20. Tickets at the door are on a sliding scale \$10 - \$30. Ticket sales start at 5:00, show starts at 7:00 pm. This event is a fundraiser for the Washington field office of Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER). Through a matching grant, any funds raised by this event will be doubled and used for Washington PEER's work to hold governments accountable to environmental protection, scientific integrity, and public employee rights. For more information or to help out with the event, call WA PEER at (360) 528-2110 or write to wapeer@peer.org.

Community Discussion With
Jim Hightower
Olympia World News and PEER are

(Continued page 13)

WIP Schedule

Submission Deadline:

Friday, Dec. 21st

Proofreading Meeting

Monday, Dec. 24th
6:30pm at T.B.A.

Everyone Welcome!

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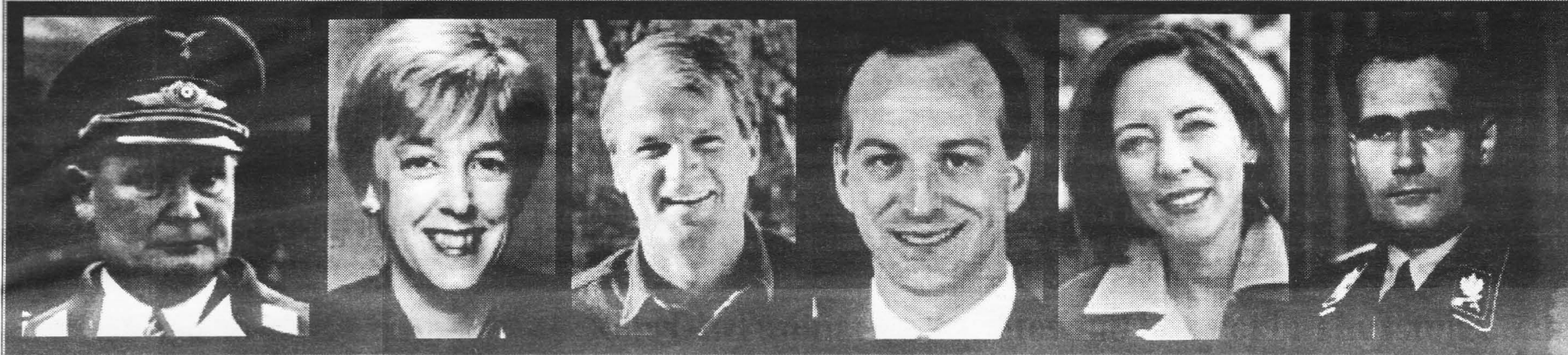
DECEMBER 2001

Our fascists in Congress and the unconstitutional USA "Patriot" Act

[The Patriot Act] will give enormous, unwarranted power to the executive branch unchecked by meaningful judicial review. This new authority could be used against American citizens in routine criminal investigations unrelated to terrorism, immigrants within our borders legally, and those whose First Amendment activities are deemed threats to national security by the Attorney General. — ACLU

This legislation, supported by Baird, Murray, Cantwell and Smith, attacks the freedom of speech, the right to peaceably assemble, and the ability to petition the government for redress. It also violates the Fourth Amendment's "guarantee of probable cause...allowing the police, at any time and for any reason to enter and search your house." Domestic spying by the CIA is once more allowed, and the Attorney General now has "the power to designate domestic groups as terrorist organizations" and hold indefinitely, "without trial, those deemed...to be threats to national security."

Sources: A.C.L.U.: Are You a Patriot? by John Daminski, Common Dreams; Crackdown by Jeffrey Toobin, *The New Yorker*



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

If the government thinks you're under the control of a foreign government, they can wiretap you and never tell you, search your house and never tell you, break into your home, copy your hard drive, and never tell you that they've done it.

Morton Halperin, served on the National Security Council under Henry Kissinger

1

2000: Recount confirms Cantwell won
2000: Recount confirms Dem/GOP tie in WA state house

2

2000: Florida Supreme Court hears arguments on whether to allow the count of 14,000 disputed ballots

3

1995: More blacks than whites in nation's prisons and jails
2000: Gore vows to continue legal battle

4

2000: Florida judge denies hand count
2000: Supreme Court denies extension of deadline for recounts

5

1999: Study shows men more violent than women; 1 in 9 men are violent offenders, 1 woman in 56

6

1998: Scientists claim industrial pollution/dust from Asia travels across Pacific and degrades US air quality

7

1661: Parliament requires Massachusetts to suspend corporal punishment act targeting Quakers

8

1999: Jury finds MLK murder conspiracy
2000: Florida Supreme Court orders ballot recount

9

1999: Local WTO protesters share stories
2000: Supreme Court halts count of Florida's disputed ballots

10

2000: Barak resigns as Israeli Prime Minister
2000: Talks between Guild and Seattle newspapers collapse

11

1961: Supreme Court reverses conviction of 16 sit-in students
2000: Newspaper Guild resume boycott

12

2000: Supreme Court bars Florida recount
2000: Olympia City Council will temporarily house homeless

13

1998: Puerto Ricans reject statehood
1998: FBI reports serious crime dropped 5% in first half of the year

14

1999: US/Germany reach deal to compensate Nazi slave and forced laborers; \$5.2 billion fund

15

1997: Pentagon announces plans to vaccinate against anthrax
2000: Colin Powell selected as sec of state

16

1997: Common Cause claims timber industry millions in campaign contributions ensured new logging roads

17

1859: Georgia state legislature declares any African-American indicted for vagrancy can now be sold

18

1996: Simpson Timber Company receives permission to burn 1,000 lbs of tire chips an hour in Shelton

19

2000: Commerce Dept reports trade deficit for first 10 months at \$363 billion, \$100 billion more than in '99

20

2000: Bush chooses Paul O'Neill, current president of the aluminum giant Alcoa, for treasury secretary

21

2000: LOTT and Miller reach agreement
2000: Bush selects Gov. Christie Whitman for head of EPA

22

2000: LOTT/Miller agreement provides \$8 million to Miller when it withdraws from the LOTT sewer system

23

2000: *Seattle Times* agrees to stop replacing strikers for three days
2000: UN votes to reduce US dues

24

1851: A huge fire in the United States Library of Congress leaves 35,000 volumes in ashes

25

1998: Data shows Japan's economy continues a downward spiral in Nov. with no indication of a rebound

26

1956: Birmingham: mass defiance of Jim Crow bus laws begins
1996: Ice storm hits South Puget Sound

27

1994: Fed judge issues preliminary injunction preventing Oregon from putting into effect its assisted-suicide law

28

2000: Rumsfeld is selected as defense sec.
2000: *P-I* strikers accept contract ending a five week strike

29

1997: Hong Kong begins to kill fowl that may have been near chickens to prevent spread bird flu virus

30

1999: Governor says Oregon is Y2K ready
2000: Striking *Seattle Times* workers reject contract

31

1879: Edison demonstrates to the public the incandescent light bulb
1890: New York's Ellis Island opens its doors

The recent passage and signing of the Patriot Act has effectively nullified at least six amendments of the Bill of Rights addendum to the U.S. Constitution. As a result of this, America is no longer America, but a police state, pure and simple.

John Kaminski, *Common Dreams*

The Beginnings of a Red Scare

Eric Chase

For decades now, radical and progressive activists have enjoyed relative peace from the rightwing elements in this country. I say "relative" in that there has been little concerted effort in the United States to squash any organized resistance to business as usual capitalism and imperialism. Granted there have been occasional outbreaks of state-sponsored violence towards anti-racist action, environmental, labor and other groups, but nothing to the degree of Senator Eugene McCarthy's Red Scare of the 1950's and the FBI's COINTELPRO of the 1960's and 70's, which murdered and jailed hundreds of Black Panthers, AIM members and political lefties.

Government repression continued within the Central American solidarity networks in the 1980's and the firebombing of MOVE in Philadelphia, but as a nationwide rightwing backlash, there was nothing to compare to the Red Scare of the 1950's. Thousands of people were blacklisted throughout the country for their political belief or suspected political beliefs or their association with people who may or may not have had leftist political beliefs.

Things started to heat up a bit in the early 90's with the radical environmental movement (primarily Earth First!) and its challenge to environmental destruction. Still in its infancy, the radical environmental movement still had its right foot planted in the reactionary anti-immigration and anti-worker stance of the original good ole boy network of Dave Foreman and Edward Abbey and its left foot in the decentralized "anarchist" camp of folks like Judy Bari. What posed the greatest threat was that Bari was not only an Earth First!er, but was a union organizer with the IWW (Industrial Workers of the World). A coalition was being born and was potentially more dangerous than any single issue progressive organization had been since the Vietnam War. Judy Bari and

fellow organizer Darryl Cherney were severely injured in a bomb explosion that ripped through Bari's car, an example of what can happen if you are too effective at facilitating change.

In the past 10 years, we've seen more of this type of organizing as well as harsher repression. Legally, the State of Washington has tried Rainforest Action Network, Greenpeace and Earth First! activists with the Anarchy and Sabotage law of the 1920's. Originally established to make membership in the IWW a felony, this law was recently struck from the books with help of the current IWW, but the legal war continues with more and more laws to squelch any sort of civil disobedience. Only a few months ago, a young man in Oregon was convicted of setting ablaze three SUVs at a dealership. He received 23 years in jail.

Though this is an example of outrageous punishment for property damage, not all victims of the government are caught engaged in property destruction.

With the growing anti-Globalization movement that, in the spirit of Judy Bari, includes multi-issue organizations and individuals, government repression is on the rise.

Last year, the International Longshore and Warehouse Union, ILWU was engaged in a picket line in support of a strike when police used teargas and clubs to clear the longshoremen. The police nabbed 5 workers on various felony charges. The District Attorney in Charleston is reported to have demanded that they not only go to jail, but be buried under the jail. The charges were eventually dropped when popular support was created throughout the labor movement, the environmental movement and the African American community. That the ILWU threatened to shut down the East Coast ports was probably a consideration as well.

We have seen how police repression is on the rise and that a coordinated response has been developed for large demonstrations as the one in Seattle dur-

ing the WTO in 1999. Police are starting to use information gathering such as hasn't been seen since the COINTELPRO days and are participating in shared trainings. Police from Genoa, Italy, in preparations of the G8 meetings, were present in Los Angeles to see how the LAPD handled tens of thousands of demonstrators during the Democratic National Convention in August of 2000. Police from Philadelphia, preparing for the Republican National Convention, were in Washington DC to collect information on participants in the World Bank demonstrations.

Already we have seen a new line of weapons to address governmental and corporate concerns of large demonstrations in the streets. Some activists have been barred from entering Canada and other countries for fear of their participation in demonstrations against Global Capitalism. An international data base has been established for all law enforce-

ment officials to track the movements of many activists. Much of this information has been gathered by the mass arrests of people during large demonstrations or through the use of other surveillance technologies such as email and telephone monitoring.

The new laws being pushed through by President Bush will expand what the government can do to people who disagree with current economic and political policies. The redefining of "terrorist" to include people that restrict, interfere or reduce the capabilities of trade, offers a new light into how far we will be allowed to oppose organizations like the WTO or the World Bank, or for that matter, bio-engineered crops or a bad employer.

With the growing anti-Globalization movement that, in the spirit of Judy Bari, includes multi-issue organizations and individuals, government repression is on the rise. But how can Big Brother and corporations get away with it? How can the public accept a police state and curtailed freedoms?

As explained by Noam Chomsky, the "manufacture of consent" is needed to convince people that more laws, more jails, more police are essential to protect the public. At the onset of the anti-Globalization movement in North America (I differentiate between North Americans and the rest of the world since the Battle in Seattle was when many North Americans woke up to a war millions worldwide had been fighting for years) the anarchist were seen to be a viable scapegoat for the American public to fear. After Seattle, whenever any actions were planned throughout the Northwest and even throughout the United States, the mention of Anarchist, Black Clad Anarchists or especially Eugene Anarchist (mainstream media's mythical home of the worst type of Anarchist), people would shut down businesses, schools, roads and whatever else. Some not so savvy groups would actually call off demonstrations in fear of an unwanted element, ie. United Steelworkers of America in a march against Kaiser Aluminum in 2000. Many would neglect to ask where a group of Anarcho-Primitivists would get enough cash together to fly all over the country and world to attend every major demonstration against Global Capitalism. Perhaps their organic vegetables grown in their backyards are all the rave at the local farmer's market.

Since the September 11th terrorist attack in Washington DC and New York, over a thousand young men of Middle Eastern descent have been imprisoned without trial or formal charges. Some of these people have experienced beatings while in a state of interrogation limbo. That this lacks any sort of due process is not necessarily surprising in and of itself except for the numbers of those involved, but that this seems to be not questioned by the public nor the mainstream press reveals that the manufacturing of consent has taken place and that more and more Americans will jump on the bandwagon of proudly declaring themselves American and bedecking their car with more flags than the president himself. Not only has it become "understandably accepted" to lock up people of Middle Eastern descent, but anyone who openly opposes the current regime of bombing Afghan cities is branded a traitor or worse.

In Western Washington, known for its liberal left politics, in the state capital of Olympia, home of The Evergreen State College, one of the country's top liberal arts schools and bastion of progressive politics, one would think that things would be different. Though Olympia can boast a grand history of May Day celebrations, Reclaim the Streets parties, Catholic Workers, Wobblies, Earth First!ers and dozens of grassroots organizations, the right wing backlash is evident. The beginnings of a twenty first century Red Scare is obvious.

A few days after the terrorist attack someone spray painted racial slurs on the wall of a Korean-owned convenience store. Including both swastikas and circle As as well as racist sentiments, the local police deemed it not the work of white-supremacist, but the work of someone probably "in association with Anarchists". Evidently neither the vandal nor the police are familiar with the theories of Fascism or Anarchism. Or are they? Since that time, local papers have been flooded with editorial comments referring to Afghanis as "sub-humans" and "the enemy". Equally troubling is equat-

(Continued next page)

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**"Soft Rock
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Tinting
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Free Consultation - Free Bang Trims

(Scare, continued)

ing of demonstrators against the war as being terrorists themselves and the increasing "red baiting" going on against professors and students of The Evergreen State College. Opinion pieces claiming the protest was organized by "...leftist teachers... spewing forth the benefits of socialism", and encouraged the governor to close down the college of "gutless traitors", "grinning buffoon[s]", and "Stalinist bagmen".

Even more disturbing are the accounts of continual harassment and "in your face" patriotism. Workers at a local feed store were informed by management to not talk about political issues when customers were in the store. Apparently a longtime customer had overheard a discussion between workers against the war and was so offended that he swore he would never shop there again and would make a concerted effort to get others to stop shopping there. When a counter person at the local farmer's market politely refused to wear a red, white and blue ribbon, the person encouraging people to wear the ribbons walked through the open air market telling others of the clerk's refusal. The clerk was soon surrounded by other workers and customers in the area who harassed her. A young woman who worked at a downtown seafood restaurant also refused to wear an American flag and was harassed by the manager. When she maintained her position and suggested that the workers needed a union to protect themselves from harassment, she was fired.

More and more workers are reporting that their places of business have been visited by people asking "Where is your American flag?" or "Why aren't you playing patriotic music?" Memories of Patriotic Clubs and Loyalty Brigades who visited homes and businesses in the Red Scares of the 1890's, 1920's and the 1950's are getting some folks worried. But how is this allowed to happen?

The corporate media, our main source of information, is greatly invested in consent. Most every major war has been fought for economic gain and this one is no exception. When we talk about the United States government and corporations, we are talking about the same entity, two sides of the same coin. We are not waging a war to defend ourselves from terrorist attacks. We created the current situation in Afghanistan to keep the region weak. Perhaps the backroom dealers didn't actually consider a September 11th possibility, but they knew sooner or later, in one way or another, the immensely rich oil fields of Afghanistan would be under their control.

Who does the United States government see standing in the way? Certainly the Taliban, a monster of their own making, but they aren't the real threat. They were just a weak enemy created by the CIA to fight the Soviets and conveniently kept in place until we could remove them. The real enemy to global conquest, to Global Capitalism are those who stand up against it. The anti-war demonstrators that say one life is too many. The environmentalist that try to save old growth and oppose bio-tech, the labor organizers who start unions in sweat shops, all those tree hugging Judy Bari apostles in Eugene. The real enemy of the War on Terrorism aren't the terrorist, of which there are two apparent camps fighting it out now. The real enemy is you and me. ♦

Thurston Santo Tomás Sister County Association International Solidarity...Now more than ever!

Thurston Santo Tomás Sister County Association (TSTSCA) invites you to consider joining our community delegation to Nicaragua this coming summer. TSTSCA is a non-profit community organization dedicated to working in solidarity with the people of Santo Tomás in the Chontales region of Nicaragua. Promoting peace and justice through people-to-people exchange, TSTSCA sends and brings delegations to and from Santo Tomás on a regular basis.

The upcoming delegation is part of the personal and cultural exchanges to which our organization is committed. Over the course of our thirteen year relationship we have enjoyed the visits of five delegations from Santo Tomás. We are currently preparing to bring a four person delegation this coming spring. We have also prepared and sent five Evergreen student delegations and several community delegations from Thurston County to travel to Nicaragua. We wish to extend this unique opportunity to families and individuals with interest in becoming a part of our organization and long-term relationship with

Santo Tomás. We want to strengthen the connections between our sister schools and assist as needed in Nicaragua with web page construction, organic farming techniques, medical skills, etc. This delegation will focus on exchange and sharing of information and ideas.

We anticipate that the delegation can successfully include ten to fifteen participants and be up to three weeks in length. Participants will live with very special host families and contribute to the work of important projects under the umbrella of the Committee for Community Development (CDC), our sister organization. Some degree of Spanish language competency is essential for your homestay as well as for a significant exchange of ideas. If you are not able to converse in Spanish, you should enroll in Spanish language classes during winter and spring. We can help you locate classes appropriate for your current level of Spanish.

The expect the cost for each delegation member to be \$800-1000 plus airfare, vaccinations, passport, and entry/exit expenses. The fee will include all

ground travel in Nicaragua, home-stay expenses in Santo Tomás, expenses for a possible trip to Leon and Managua, and an administrative contribution to the CDC which will directly support a prioritized community project of their choosing. Partial scholarships will be available for a number of prospective delegation members.

We seek a mix of members from our community to represent our community abroad.

In the spring, the delegation members will participate in a series of workshops and presentations to learn more about TSTSCA and the CDC, a bit of Nicaragua's history, cross cultural considerations, and travel issues.

To apply to be a member of the delegation, fill out the application on this page and return it to TSTSCA, PO Box 561, Olympia, WA 98507. For additional copies of the application, more information, or to simply have a good conversation about the delegation, please call Grace @ 357-8323.

Application to participate in the Olympia Community Delegation to Santo Tomás, Nicaragua Summer 2002

Please return to PO Box 561, Olympia, WA 98507, by January 1, 2002. Questions? Call Grace at 357-8323.

Name _____ Phone _____

e-mail _____

Application is for: _____ self only
_____ family group (____ # adults, ____ # children & their ages _____)

Why are you interested in traveling to Santo Tomás? _____

Our sister organization in Santo Tomás has identified some skills that would be useful to them. Please check any of the following skills that you could offer:

☐ Computer skills/web design	☐ Cultural exchange
☐ Sex/sexuality education for teens	☐ Library skills
☐ Farming/organic gardening skills	☐ Medical skills
☐ Hygiene/nutrition education for children	☐ Teaching English

Are there other skills you could offer? Please specify: _____

Please rate your Spanish language fluency: _____ not a word, yet; _____ basics only; _____ can converse slowly; _____ can carry on a philosophical conversation; _____ can interpret for others

Are you willing to improve your Spanish language skills, if necessary, between now and summer of 2002? _____ yes
_____ no

Please indicate your maximum, minimum and ideal duration for this trip (# of weeks): _____ max.; _____ min.; _____ ideal.

Preparation for participation in a community delegation sponsored by TSTSCA includes workshops in the history and current politics/economics of Nicaragua, history of the sister county relationship, group process, and cultural sensitivity. Are you willing & able to participate in such workshops? _____ yes; _____ no.

We expect the trip to cost between \$800 & \$1000, plus airfare and vaccinations, per participant. These fees include all ground transportation in Nicaragua, home-stay fees and a contribution to the projects of our sister organization in Santo Tomás. A few partial scholarships will be available. We wish to make this trip accessible to all who are interested. Please indicate if you will need financial assistance: _____.

Up Front**America's Challenge****Jerome Johnson**

At 5:43 AM Pacific time—8:43 Eastern—on Sept. 11, 2001 I was in my office at work. I'm one of the very lucky few in America to have cable TV there, and I was watching C-SPAN while doing paperwork. I'd finished a stack and since the C-SPAN program was over, I decided to switch on CNN a little early.

The first thing I saw was a huge, smoking hole in a tall building. I recognized it as the World Trade Center. At first, I thought it was the result of a normal—albeit terrible—problem, like a fire from a burst gas line or something.

And then the voiceover came on, and I heard Leon Harris describe how a jetliner had crashed into the building. At the time I was thinking—and so was he, I think—that however horrible, it was a normal crash, something had gone wrong mechanically with the plane.

I raced downstairs and told my co-worker, who switched on the news. Just as he did so, we watched in horror as the second plane drove into the second tower.

I remember a terrible sinking feeling, a deep dread, in the pit of my stomach. My co-worker and I slowly looked at each other, and he said what both of us—and the world—was thinking. "That looked deliberate."

I couldn't believe it. Why—how—could something like this happen? As we watched, we saw chilling footage of bodies falling out of the buildings and desperate people leaping out of them to escape. And as we watched reruns of the attacks, I knew that in fact this WAS deliberate, no accident at all.

Things began to happen fast after that.

As we watched, my boss called. Like us, he was horrified. He'd barely hung up when my relief called. Although shocked and aghast, she said she'd be in shortly. Then my cell phone started ringing.

I went home. I hadn't been there long when I heard about the plane crashes at the Pentagon and in Pennsylvania.

Throughout that awful Tuesday and especially in the weeks since then, I've listened and watched the news with deepening fear—more of the government than of the terrorists.

On Sept. 11, the president was in Florida campaigning for his brother. Ol' Jeb had helped him steal the election, so it was only fair that Dubya come help in return. No sooner had he begun his speech than Dubya heard about the attacks. After a short, irresponsible "act of war" statement Dubya took off, flying all over the southeastern United States like a scared jackrabbit before finally stopping at Barksdale Air Force Base (AFB) in Louisiana. In Washington DC, the Secret Service took VP Cheney to a "secure, undisclosed location in order to protect the National Command Authority and prevent the Government from being decapitated."

Now, that made me think. It seemed to me that if Dubya was really the terrorists' target, they would've crashed the plane on him in Florida—his visit was

public knowledge, and although the Secret Service is very capable, I doubt even they can defend someone from an airliner attack. Instead of providing calm, steady, courageous leadership, Dubya and Cheney looked like cowards. And why was Cheney so much better protected than the officially selected chief executive? It makes one wonder who's really the president—Dubya or Cheney?

Meanwhile, an incredibly irresponsible media was whipping the nation into hysteria, fear, bigotry and the most intense jingoism I've ever seen, even worse than the frantic psychosis over the Iranian hostage crisis in 1979-80. Much worse. Within minutes of the attacks—literally—and with absolutely no evidence at all, the media began wildly blaming "Arab terror", "Saddam Hussein," "Osama bin Laden", and "Islamic extremists". Led by a panicking media, Americans conveniently forgot that until Sept. 11, the most heinous act of terror in US history had been commit-

However, by far the most terrifying result of the Sept. 11 attacks comes not from foreign terrorists, but from our own Government led by Attorney Gen. John Ashcroft

ted by a white, "Christian" American, Timothy McVeigh. The media eagerly, wildly followed the Government line as it developed, without question, blaming bin Laden.

I think that's no accident. I think—especially after the Reagan years—that the media wants to be seen as patriotic by the public, and the media hasn't forgotten how it was (unfairly and falsely) accused of "causing" defeat in Vietnam by "undermining public opinion," when in reality the media was simply doing its job, and the Government didn't like its mistakes and illegal practices made known. (I guess that's easier than believing the truth: we shouldn't have been in that war and the Vietnamese, in their own land, outfought the US).

I also think that the media knows this administration's penchant for secrecy. (The secrecy stems from their correct belief that if the people don't know about it, Government can't be held accountable for it.) But the Government uses its control of access to officials and information to control the media. If reporters start asking "uncomfortable" questions, they stopped being called on at news conferences. Ratings fall. Officials don't appear as "talking heads"—which is why Wolf Blitzer always asks softball questions of senior officials, using a gruff tone to make viewers think he's being tough. These are among the reasons why the media has so eagerly submitted to Government controls, like "pool reporting" from war zones and withholding information "to protect our troops."

The most hilarious example of this was media's agreeing to the Government's "request" to censor our knowledge by refusing to air coverage of bin Laden's videos. What does the Government think—that if we see the cover-

age, somehow all the rage and jingoism will vanish a wave of sympathy for bin Laden? Come on!

At the same time, the war drums began to beat—even though there was no target—and people started wrapping themselves in the flag and blind "patriotism." The media—drunk on jingoism—traded away its facade of "objectivity" and became a pro-US, pro-Government propaganda machine. Flag graphics appeared on the news networks' screens during the coverage, an unsubtle sign of their position on events. With the flag came the onscreen captions: "America at War," "America Under Attack." And there was music—going into commercial breaks we were serenaded with "America the Beautiful" and other music calling us to arms—even though at the time there was no specific enemy. Months after the attacks, there's been little improvement—but at least the music is gone.

Only C-SPAN—led by the legendary Brian Lamb—has remained sane in its coverage. There are no flags, no captions, no ribbons or lapel pins worn by anchors. Just the raw, balanced coverage we've depended on for 22 years.

Immediately after the attacks—sooner than we expected, but not unexpected—

we began seeing the Bush Administration's true colors. Under the guise of "national security" and "fighting terror," and with the eager acquiescence of a rubber-stamp Congress stoned on jingoism, testosterone and estrogen, it rammed through a huge GOP political agenda:

- * another tax cut for the rich
- * subsidies to big business
- * pressure off tobacco companies
- * huge increases in "defense" spending
- * huge increases in CIA/intelligence funding
- * support & initial funding for missile defense
- * tighter immigration controls
- * censorship of the media
- * muzzling opposition to ANWR drilling
- * a blind eye and deaf ear to Israel's policies
- * distraction from the illegitimacy of the Bush presidency
- * exploiting the crisis for generic support of the administration

However, by far the most terrifying result of the Sept. 11 attacks comes not from foreign terrorists, but from our own Government. Led by Attorney Gen. John Ashcroft, the administration has used this crisis and exploited the people's trauma to enact draconian laws restricting civil liberties. Hundreds of people have been rounded up and locked away in federal jails without due process. Secret military courts are being set up to operate outside the US, away from public scrutiny and accountability. Email and electronic communication is subject to Government monitoring on a pretext. Our homes and businesses are subject to searches that are essentially warrantless. Even the attorney-client relationship is no longer sacrosanct: if the Government "suspects" someone of being a terrorist,

they can listen in on their conversations and use that as "evidence" against the accused.

And yet, when we stand up and question and peaceably dissent, when we assert ourselves as Americans and exercise our remaining rights by defending our Constitution and due process we are often accused of being "unpatriotic". What hypocrisy! I sure wish all these flag-waving "patriots" had been around last year, when our election was stolen and our "democracy" hijacked by angry Republican mobs at Florida ballot stations.

This week, I heard on the news that, because of the fear of terrorism, the White House will remain closed to tours and we—the people—won't be able to go see the White House Christmas tree. I find this at best ironic and at worst hypocritical. Dubya has been urging us to return to "normal," begging us to travel again and spend our way back to "our normal lives." He put troops armed with assault rifles in airports to make us feel safer. The White House is not only surrounded by armed troops, it's protected by the Secret Service, arguably the finest bodyguards in the world. To get into the White House you need ID, and you pass through the same high security—metal detectors etc.—as at airports. What's the president trying to tell us—that we're safer than he is?

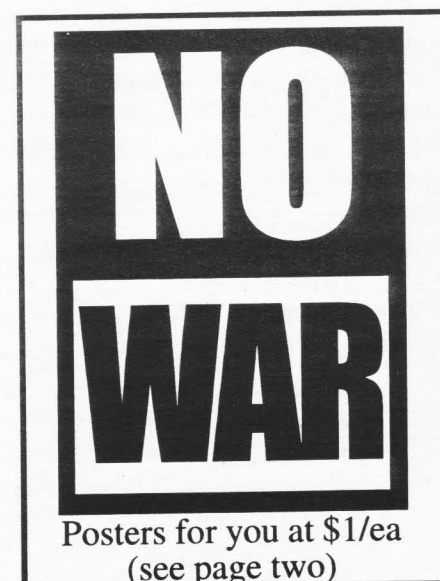
The true challenge facing us, as a people, as a nation, is NOT terrorism. The challenge—which we must rise and meet—is to our civil liberties and remaining freedoms in this time. As a revolutionary once said, and rightly: if we sacrifice liberty for "security," we will have neither. The real patriots will stand up for the Constitution, will stand up for those who question and dissent peaceably. In times of calm it's easy to be a "loyal American." In times of crisis, we must ensure as never before that the Constitution and the remaining freedoms that so many fought to create and preserve keep their meaning and are practiced by our Government. That's how to really beat the terrorists.

In the Arabian Sea, the US Marines stand ready to invade Afghanistan.

In the Philippines, US Special Forces "advise" government forces fighting the Abu Sayyaf.

Across the US, as we recover from the trauma, voices of dissent begin to question and peaceably protest the Bush Administration.

And in Thurston County, citizens are again banding together to defend their environment—this time, from a proposed asphalt plant adjacent to the pristine Black River. ♦



I Dreamt I Was Walking Into WW III

Ron Jacobs

I don't want to be writing this. I'd rather be chilling out with a book or hanging out with the kids, but if we don't oppose this war in greater and greater numbers, who will? I was honestly hoping that the crime of 911 would be handled like other crimes of that nature. You know, like the Oklahoma City bombing where the perpetrators (at least some of them) were brought to justice and faced their maker. Unfortunately, that was never on the agenda of the warmakers. They saw the opportunity to put the falling economy on a war footing without any debate in Congress and they took advantage of the moment—manipulating our emotions towards a campaign of endless war and authoritarian rule—rule that could make rallies opposed to their plans illegal and potentially put those of us who organize them in detention. Authoritarian rule that will affect every single one of us—in our travel, our internet use, our ability to say what we think, and our ability to oppose acts of our government we consider wrong. While some of these so-called precautions might make sense to a lot of people right now, they won't once they are used against those of us who take the Bill of Rights seriously.

What do I mean by endless war? Already the US has notified the UN that they may attack other countries. This could mean Iraq, it could even mean Cuba—two governments the US has yet to convince to go along with its way of thinking. It could mean Palestine, where Israel has set up an apartheid-like regime which, among other totalitarian practices against Palestinians, locks up Palestinians at will, knocks down their homes and forbids them from entering many areas unless they have the right kind of pass—and that's during times of relative peace in the country. As we know, the resistance to Israeli military occupation and settlements has intensified since the election of Ariel Sharon in Israel, as have the bombings and other attacks from both sides in the conflict. Or it could mean Colombia, where a civil war has been going on for thirty years and where the notoriously brutal Colombian military receives millions of dollars in aid every month from the US to fight those who oppose the US plans for the region.

I'd like to say a few words to the folks who aren't sure if they are against the war, but aren't really for it either. I'm talking about those people who know something doesn't feel exactly right or make sense about killing Afghans but feel something must be done to respond to the killings of 911. For those of us who are certain about our opposition, read on anyhow. The following couple of paragraphs can be like a quick review—a renewal of our determination to end this murderous nonsense masquerading as justice and goodness.

To start, we are told that this war is against terrorism. Let's look at this—In the 1950s and 1960s any movement or government that opposed the US was labeled communist by the US propa-

ganda machine. Today, the new label is to be terrorist. While it is very, very important to acknowledge that the acts of 911 were terrorist acts, it is equally important to acknowledge that struggles like that of the Palestinians are legitimate struggles for self-determination. In Washington's new war, it is the intention of the US government and its cohorts to confuse these definitions to serve their own ends. Of course, though, they will tell us that any expansion of their war will be in self-defense.

This is a lie! Bombing a country to smithereens is not self-defense. Attacking and invading a country that did not attack us is not self-defense. Forcing hundreds of thousands of already desperate people from their homes and into camps is not self-defense. Destabilizing an already tenuous world is not self-defense. It is nothing other than unabashed aggression in the name of US hegemony and the war machine. Especially when we are told by those very same folks ordering the bombardment

While both religion and patriotism are legitimate expressions of the human approach to life, the manipulation of either to condone killing is not only wrong, it is perverse.

of Afghanistan that after they finish their destruction and whatever comes next, there is a very good chance that the very men we are told organized the 911 attacks will still be on the loose and that the military must go into other countries and kill some more. When I hear that I find it hard to believe that capturing those guys was ever the main priority in this campaign.

Let me digress for a moment: when I was a kid I lived in Pakistan as a USAF military dependent. My parents hired a man to watch us kids when they were busy. He also cleaned the house and cooked occasionally. As an adult, I look back on those days and realize how colonialist that set-up was, but at the time I saw it differently. We called the man who worked for us Sharif. He spoke three languages—English, Urdu, and Pushtu—and enjoined me in many conversations about his life, his religion and his culture. Sometimes I would go to his village with him and play with the boys my age and then eat dinner. He even invited me to his wedding. I often wonder what happened to him and his loved ones or the boys I used to play with. Because of my personal connection to this land through those memories I die a little bit each time those bombers kill another human in that land. In truth, though we all die a little bit each time this occurs. We must bring it home—it is human lives our government is taking, not some numbers on a scoresheet that will be filled only after the Pentagon's goals are achieved.

We cannot let them expand their war. It must end in Afghanistan and it must end NOW! No more cluster bombs. No more laser-guided bombs. No more cruise missiles. No more B-52 carpet-bombing. No more gatling guns on gunships

raking death across the mountains and plains. No more death in our name. If the masters of war try to expand this war, (and they will) it will become very obvious that this is not a war against terrorism as much as it is a campaign of terror against those who would thwart corporate America's desire for global rule—something it was having a hard time doing by using more conventional means like trade agreements and such, although Bush and friends insist, in their greed-driven blindness, that free trade agreements thwart terrorism, when in reality not only do they increase the disparities in the world that drive desperate people to commit desperate acts of terror, the agreements themselves are acts of terror in that their very nature ensures the suffering of millions by denying them essential human needs. This is not to say that terrorism isn't a threat, nor that those who perpetrated the crimes of 911 should not be brought to justice. It is saying that a war against all of Washington's enemies is an even greater

threat to all of humanity.

But what about the Taliban? Aren't they oppressive and against women?

Yes, they are. But, you know what, war is not going to solve that. Even if the Taliban are destroyed and a new government is put into place in Afghanistan, there will be grave problems with regards to the rights of women and those in the Afghani population who are left out of any new government. However, no matter what, the current killing going on will not alleviate this situation either. Indeed, war and its aftermath usually tends to pave the way for even greater violation of human rights—of which women's rights are one of the most important aspects. It is my hope that a fairer regime will rule Afghanistan in the future, but this war must end in order for any meaningful changes in that arena to occur. As for the rest of the world, what has this war done in terms of freedom? Not a damn thing! Indeed, like I said earlier, here in the US we see more restrictions on our freedom to travel, our freedom to converse on the telephone and via email, and there are now laws on the books that would allow the government, should it so desire, to prosecute those who organize against their plans as domestic terrorists. Not that that's likely to happen, but it could. GW may call this war Operation Enduring Freedom, but I've begun calling it Operation Ending Freedom.

You know, when I listen to the words of bin Laden and his organization or the words of GW and the organization he currently runs, they sound frightfully similar. Both of these organizations—Al Queda and the US government—believe they are absolutely correct and both are willing to do whatever it takes to impose their plans for the world on the

rest of us, no matter what that involves—mass murder via bombing, war, and starvation, or political, business and trade practices that deny the humanity of a large percentage of the world's population. Neither organization has the best interests of humanity in mind. Bin Laden and his organization use religion to gain supporters. GW and friends use patriotism, although, like American warmakers throughout our history, they'll play the religion card too. While both religion and patriotism are legitimate expressions of the human approach to life, the manipulation of either to condone killing is not only wrong, it is perverse. Unfortunately for the human race, it is all too common. Neither of these men and the organizations they lead care as much about humanity as they do about their political agenda and neither of them deserve our allegiance. Of course, we can't ignore them because their battle won't go away and the planet is in the middle.

I want to take a moment to mourn those who have died in this battle between these two organizations of terror—here and overseas. I also want to talk about the service women and men (and those who are considering joining) involved in this war. These folks are honorable folks. They are not the enemy. It is they and their families who will suffer more than other Americans in this war. If history is any indication, many of the men and women in uniform will return from battle bearing its scars—physical and emotional. They will discover that there is no glory in killing and dying, and that the patriotism they were sold was little more than a cynical lie used by those in power to convince them to leave their families and kill other human beings who fell for another version of that same lie. We can support them best by ending this war, bringing all of the soldiers over there home, and by speaking with those whom we know in the service—family and friends—about what the historical role of the US military has been—not freedom, but oppression. Not defense, but intrusion.

One more thing, it's important to address what lies ahead for those of us who oppose the killing going on in our name. It is not going to be easy, especially right now. People will harass us. At times, we will want to quit. At times we will question the point of our resistance. But we must never quit. No! We must raise our level of opposition to a greater level than. Sometimes we will offend some folks, maybe even our family or friends. Sometimes we will be verbally abused or physically assaulted. We must not, no, cannot, give in. Like the great fighter for the liberation of black people in this country from slavery, Frederick Douglass, said:

If there is no struggle, there is not progress. Those who profess to favor freedom, yet deprecate agitation, are men who want crops without plowing up the ground. They want rain without the thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters. This struggle may be a moral one; or it may be a physical one; or it may be both mental and physical; but it must be a struggle. Power concedes nothing without a demand. ♦

Coexistence with Islamic Fundamentalism?

George Katsiaficas

To my great fortune, I am not now in the US. I am fortunate not because I fear anthrax or other terrors but rather because my mind and soul are not being inalterably soaked by the patriotic outpouring swirling through the country with greater strength than a tornado. During the last such nationalistic maelstrom (the Iran hostage crisis in 1979) I was also lucky enough to have been living abroad. I mention my location because my perspective—worlds apart from the vast majority of Americans—will probably seem quite foreign, perhaps even alien and blasphemous.

In South Korea, emergent grassroots viewpoints bear little resemblance to those in the US. The 20th Century was singularly brutal here, beginning with an unspeakably harsh Japanese occupation and colonization, through the bloody suppression of post-World War 2 anti-US uprisings and the subsequent annihilation of millions of people and destruction of nearly all of the entire peninsula's infrastructure during the Korean War. The frozen state of war since 1953 continues to abet dictatorial tendencies in both Koreas. Through decades of tremendous sacrifices and heroic struggles, the South Korean people won the beginnings of liberty and a semblance of democracy, and through it all US corporations have profited enormously. Thus, when the heartland of America was hit on September 11, many here—including those normally sympathetic to the US—secretly celebrated and privately expressed satisfaction that a country which has inflicted so much pain here and elsewhere has come to experience for itself that which it has so glibly and painlessly exported. Universally hated and reviled in the US, Osama Bin Laden for many Koreans is a 21st Century Che Guevara, admired for his personal sacrifice, for his dedication to the downtrodden, and for his ability to cross national boundaries to fight for his ideals.

Watching the BBC world news here in Kwangju (CNN is not part of my cable package), I marvel at the sophisticated pageantry of the falsely elected American president, son of a former president who is now a business associate of the Bin Laden family and was then affiliated with Contra cocaine dealers, grandson of industrialists who were highly placed Nazi collaborators, portray himself as the champion of human rights and individual liberty as he bombs already devastated Afghanistan further into the Stone Age. Surfing the web, I've followed with dismay the recent expansion of Southern Air Transport, Evergreen and other CIA-owned or related airlines in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Not coincidentally, Richard Secord (chief operative in support of the Indochinese heroin Mafia during the Vietnam War and cover man for Contra cocaine dealers in the 1980s) has been reported recently to have twice visited there. While Tony Blair serves as point man in the disinformation campaign about mushrooming Taliban heroin production, the UN reports that it plummeted last year by as much as 90%. Poppy flowers, however, were reported to have proliferated in Uzbekistan—something no doubt significant to Secord and the rest of the secret government within the US government. Leaders of the Northern Alliance must be

thrilled at the prospect of their soon to be realized drug fortunes. Perhaps when children born on September 11 reach the ripe old age of 50 will such details become public knowledge—and perhaps also the mountain of evidence that the US government had advance knowledge of the September 11 attacks (as we now know they did of Pearl Harbor) but chose to hide it so they had a suitable pretext for fighting their already orchestrated war on Afghanistan.

Yesterday, as I watched students here march against the war, I lamented the US peace movement's paltry efficacy, its inability to speak for or effect peoples' consciousness. It appears that the US government will again channel America's vast resources into a long war for domination of the world's energy and drug supplies. If US progressives are to have any chance of intervening in the current constellation of forces, to change the direction of the world's great powers currently lined up for a long-term war on Islamic fundamentalism and Arab nationalism, we need to rethink radically our perspec-

tives and values. The American movement's anguished expressions of sorrow and heartfelt grief after September 11 are indications of how the entire country marches in lock-step to the tunes played by a propaganda system that values American lives above all others. The US public passively accepts the deaths of 500,000 Iraqi children from our blockade with scarcely an expression of regret. People remain loyal to superiority of the American way of life—no matter what the cost to the rest of humanity. As for the wretched of the earth, if their anti-imperialist movements do not accept our values, our notions of feminism and gay liberation, of "democratic" elections and individual "freedom," then to hell with them—no solidarity, no sympathy and certainly no legitimacy.

Thanks to the internet, I've been able to tune in to many American Leftists' thinking since September 11. In almost all cases, intolerance and black/white categories animate discussion of the "enemy."

In the case of Islamic fundamentalism, nearly all Western commentators view it as purely reactionary—as a misguided response to American cultural imperialism and military intervention. Such a view denies Islamic fundamentalism agency in its own right. Once again it is we who are the creators and they the mud we mold. Scarcely anyone has even bothered to glance at Islam's rich history or to undertake a cursory glimpse of its philosophy. If they did, they would immediately see that unlike the Torah or the Bible, the Koran is thought to be the word of God, and his commandments about our everyday lives are loud and clear. As far back as the 12th Century—during the time Averroes was writing and the West was in a backward state—Islamic fundamentalism reared its head. How then can it be reduced to a response to Western modernization? Nowhere in our universe of discourse is there recognition of the piety and dignity of millions of Moslem fundamentalists, of their historic toleration of the Jewish religion—a practice that contrasts quite favorably with centuries of the West's pogroms and bigotry that cul-

minated in the Nazi Holocaust. Witness the fate of the Jews of Cordoba, respected and celebrated by Moslems for their libraries and learning, but tortured and expelled en masse after the Spanish conquest. Far from resonating with Islam's history, contemporary hatred of Jews in the Islamic world should be understood as its very Westernization—not as a reaction to the West's "superior" values.

Contemporary Western anti-Semitism again takes the form of hatred and murder, not of Jewish bankers and communists, but of Arab oil sheiks and terrorists. To appreciate the Eurocentric content of many Leftists' perspective on Islamic fundamentalism, consider for a moment the case of Poland's Solidarity movement. Despite Solidarity's patriarchy and religious conservatism, the Left fawningly celebrated it because it fit the working-class definition of our expectations for a revolutionary subject. Daniel Singer carefully documented these backward dimensions of Solidarity in his book on that subject, and he warned us not to judge emergent revolutionary subjects from our own values but within the context of their concrete existence.

Thanks to the internet, I've been able to tune in to many American Leftists' thinking since September 11. In almost all cases, intolerance and black/white categories animate discussion of the "enemy." Writing in *The Nation* on November 5, Katha Pollitt observed that unlike the Vietnam War, "This time, our own country has been attacked, and the enemies are deranged fanatics." On October 14, *Nation* editor and *LA Weekly* columnist Marc Cooper called them "atavistic, religious fascists whose world view is diametrically opposed to all humanitarian and progressive morality." Another respected commentator (whom I shall not name because her comments were circulated on a private listserve) maintained that fundamentalism's "doctrine of intolerance simply cannot stand in contemporary society if we are to evolve towards peace and cooperation." Intolerance of intolerance?

These examples flow from a notion that there is only one just way of life—ours, of course. If the Left continues to impose a monocentric notion of justice, a concept most articulately expressed in the work of noted feminist theorist Seyla Benhabib, peace will never be realized. Alternative views can be found coming from Nelson Mandela, who endorsed limited autonomy for white homelands, and Fred Hampton (leader of the Black Panthers murdered by the FBI and Chicago police in 1969) who insisted that white power should belong to white people. No doubt many people will find it difficult to regard Islamic fundamentalism as having any positive attributes. That is all the more reason why peaceful coexistence is vitally important. The alternative is never-ending war.

Before the collapse of the French empire, two disastrous defeats in colonial wars, one in Vietnam and the other in Algeria, ended French dreams of global glory (and inflicted millions of deaths upon indigenous peoples). US imperial ambitions have already cost the lives of over 2 million Indochinese. As in Vietnam, the US may win nearly every battle in its war with Islamic fundamentalism and Arab nationalism (the 1991 Gulf War, current attempts to kill Osama Bin Laden and depose the Taliban) but there is little doubt in my mind that the US will never win this war. Moslems fought for centuries to liberate Crusader-held lands, especially Jerusalem (third holiest site for Islam where few Moslems are now permitted). Does anyone realistically expect them to persevere any less in the face of contemporary Western penetration of Islamic holy sites? With the bottomless pit of its war against Islamic fundamentalism and Arab nationalism, the American empire's aura of military invincibility will be shattered, leaving issues of global justice to be resolved with a new context. Assuming the accuracy of the above observation, two fundamental questions emerge: As pax Americana declines, what will be the nature of the subsequent global order? What will become of Israel?

Within the context of current power relations—i.e. concentration of military might in nation-states) optimists posit a United Nations-controlled global military to insure justice and protect the powerless as an alternative to (or in spite of) US military hegemony. While a single world military would unquestionably represent a giant step from militarized nation-states, saving humanity untold trillions of dollars in war-related expenditures, to say nothing of the incalculable suffering inflicted daily by militaries the world over, the idea of a UN-controlled world military raises several dilemmas, the most pressing of which is exactly who would control it?

If we allow ourselves a brief moment of utopian speculation (today more difficult than ever in the aftermath of the carnage of September 11) few people would disagree with the desirability of the complete abolition of weapons of mass destruction—not just nuclear, chemical and biological weapons but also so-called conventional ones like fighter jets, bombers, landmines and artillery. If it is to be strategic, the peace movement that is now only beginning should be directed toward the abolition of militaries, not their reform. In a world where even peaceful means of transportation are turned into weapons of mass destruction, nearly everyone would consider such a proposition foolish, but with major weapons systems in the hands of governments, how else can the powerless fight back? Only through the universalization of non-military conflict resolution will humanity's future fate improve beyond our abysmal reality. Of course, the destruction of the world's militaries would undoubtedly send the global economic system into a disastrous depression—all the more reason for us to discuss it as part of the need for a completely different world system (or anti-system).

Since the Holocaust, the safety of Jews remains of great concern to any consideration of global justice. As the US empire declines, Israel's security is certain to suffer, possibly to the point where a Jewish state in Palestine ceases to be a realistic option—even with the use of Israel's nuclear arsenal. As history's ironic dialectic turns victors into vanquished, every Palestinian death, each missile fired at defenseless Arabs and Afghans only fur-

(Continued next page)

(Co-existence, continued)

ther diminishes the security of a Jewish state in the Holy Land. With the growing weakness and ultimate defeat of the Zionist project, what fate will befall Israel's millions of Jews? If history teaches us anything, Jews would enjoy far more rights and privileges within an Islamic framework than anything ever known in European history before World War 2. Those who doubt the accuracy of this understanding of the past or question its validity for the future would especially agree that back-up measures should now be undertaken to protect Jews living in Israel. What better proposal than the free emigration of Jews to lands of their choice—most importantly to the USA? Lest we forget, with the collapse of the Soviet Union, Zionist and US officials arranged for treaties compelling Russian Jews to go to Israel, no matter how many family members they had elsewhere and regardless of refugees' free choice.

The preceding discussion, while to me to be a sober and realistic assessment of the future lack of viability of a Zionist state as well as an accurate understanding of the long wave of historical developments of which we are today a part, will no doubt seem to some as intoxicated musings or even villainous and premeditated propaganda. Few sane people would disagree, however, that whatever military actions the US now undertakes, measures should be undertaken to rectify policies that might motivate future desperate acts like those of September 11. For years, I have worked in support of an independent Palestinian state. It now appears the US and Britain have finally mandated one. Rather than taking it for granted, however, the peace movement should embrace it as an important step forward.

Unlike loyal oppositions, strategic social movements seek to build long-term directions into immediate responses to crises, to inject revolutionary ideas in moments of crisis. Without prolonging my remarks and delving into a discussion of the relation of reform and revolution, let me summarize: Peaceful coexistence with Islamic fundamentalism and Arab nationalism is an idea whose time has come. We need to embrace it and inject it into the public's mind to change US policy. Within the new peace movement which the Left needs to help build, the following strategic objectives should be continually raised: 1. Universal abolition of weapons of mass destruction and national militaries. 2. Right of free emigration to Jews in Israel to countries of their choice. 3. Immediate international control of Jerusalem that would allow people of all faiths to worship there. 4. Support for an independent Palestinian state.

George Katsiaficas is editor of *New Political Science*. Among his writings, he has coedited with Kathleen Cleaver *Liberation, Imagination, and the Black Panther Party* (Routledge, 2001). Feel free to circulate this article. ♦

TVW Censorship of Veterans Day Panel

Larry Mosqueda

On Monday, November 19th, I had a conversation with Ginger Eagle, who is an official with TVW-TV, Ch. 23 on cable in Olympia and other cable stations throughout WA State. I asked her about the Veteran's Day Teach-In and Forum which occurred on Sunday, November 11th. The Teach-In had been sponsored by the Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace and had not been

tion is one where someone glorifies war, and/or one that misleads our youth again as we march off to a war with little accurate information and more disinformation from government officials. As anyone who has been watching TVW over the past month knows, there have been many programs on TVW that has been "one sided" about the current crisis, often with only one speaker, such as some of the forums at the University of Washington. I have found some of them interesting and others less so, but

of her decision not to air the OMJP program, she was planning to show and did show at least three times (on Tuesday, November 20th) the "Veterans Day Diversity Program" that was held at The DSHS auditorium on Friday, November 16th. The program was sentimental and jingoistic and actually had less diversity in both content and race than the OMJP panel. But it was pro-war, both current and past. I found the emphasis on diversity to be quite cynical since the camera would occasionally focus on young black males for emphasis. "Diversity" has now been co-opted to entice young black men and white men to kill young brown people for the benefit of mostly old rich white men. Please note, this show, of course, SHOULD have been shown because it does represent a segment of the community and to not show it would constitute prior censorship, a value that I abhor, but is apparently policy at TVW. The hypocrisy is quite astonishing.

TVW is clearly in violation of its mission and program policies. The victims here are not OMJP or the panelist per se, but those who have been denied information. Of course it is possible that the viewers would not have believed anything they saw or heard on the censored program, but they will never be given the opportunity to make that decision.

If you wish to register an opinion to the management of TVW they can be reached at 360-586-5555, email at tvw@tvw.org, FAX 360-586-5678 or regular mail at P.O. 25, Olympia, WA, 98507-0025. I would recommend phoning since the station has a canned, generic and condescending email that they send to those who disagree with their policies. ♦

TVW is clearly in violation of its mission and program policies. The victims here are not OMJP or the panelist per se, but those who have been denied information.

aired, as scheduled, on November 12th. I was the moderator of the panel discussion (which was not a rally) which was filmed by TVW. Ms. Eagle informed me that she had made the decision not to air the program because she did not consider it to be "appropriate", because she did not think that it was "balanced". The panel did exactly what was advertised on the promotional flyer i.e. "Discussing Issues of War and Peace: First Hand Experiences and Lessons from U.S. Servicemen". The panel consisted of four veterans who had seen combat in Vietnam and the Persian Gulf. They were respected members of the community, Bob Seiber and Paul Gallegos, Vietnam Veterans, and Eric Chase and Mike Steenhout, Persian Gulf Veterans.

As the 80 people who were at the presentation know, there was some lively and respectful debate among the panel about the degree of honor that veterans should receive and individual responsibility, but they were in general agreement that they had been misled about the purposes of U.S. foreign policy and war at the time of their enlistment. The panel was meant to honor veterans by letting them be listened to by the general public and to share their experiences. It was not anti-military personnel nor anti-Veteran. Apparently the management of TVW has decided that a "balanced" presenta-

tion is one where someone glorifies war, and/or one that misleads our youth again as we march off to a war with little accurate information and more disinformation from government officials. As anyone who has been watching TVW over the past month knows, there have been many programs on TVW that has been "one sided" about the current crisis, often with only one speaker, such as some of the forums at the University of Washington. I have found some of them interesting and others less so, but the idea that the speaker should not be broadcast never entered my mind, especially on cable channels that are not commercial. Apparently the management of TVW knows better about what type of information the public should receive. When I asked Ms. Eagle if I could have the tape of the discussion in order to use it, she informed me that it had been destroyed. I told her that her decision to not air the program was political censorship but she denied that. Almost all of the programming of TVW has political content but apparently suppression of a critique of the status quo is not political. Orwell would have been proud.

As an example of the overt political nature of Ms. Eagle's decision, it should be noted that even as she was talking to me regarding the "non-political" nature



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Fatal Flaws: A Close-Up on the War on Drugs

Interview with Sanho Tree By Megan Davis

Sanho Tree is a Fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington, D.C. and Director of the Drug Policy Project there. He visited Olympia in June to speak at an event organized by the Olympia Colombia Committee, and then I interviewed him by phone after he returned to D.C.

Megan: The U.S. is pouring a lot of money into "War on Drugs" efforts in Colombia, with the vast majority of the funding going to military support and coca fumigation. What has the effect been on Colombia's coca production?

Sanho: Actually, Colombia's coca production has increased since the beginning of Plan Colombia. What happens is two things: Number one, our supply control eradication efforts have basically managed only to move coca and poppy cultivation from one place to the next—one country to the next and one continent to the next—because the demand has remained stable. It's called the balloon effect. You squeeze it at one end and it pops out the other.

Number two, when we try to artificially restrict the supply while the demand remains the same, then all we are doing is driving up profits and the cost of the

raw materials. So it increases profits for those who remain in the drug economy. The alchemists of the Middle Ages tried for centuries to find a formula to turn lead into gold. They never did succeed ... until Congress got into the act. So now we have a policy of prohibition that turns essentially worthless weeds into an end product that's worth more than its equivalent weight in gold. Cocaine and heroin, the end products of coca and poppy, are worth many, many, many times their equivalent weight in gold.

The heart of our policy is to get peasant farmers to grow "legal produce" and transport it with vehicles they don't own, on roads that don't exist, to domestic and export markets that they don't have access to, and compete against international agribusiness against which they don't stand a chance.

And as we push the price of the coca leaves up, it attracts more poor peasants into coca cultivation. Coca production is a problem fundamentally driven by poverty and lack of economic alternatives. There are, according to the U.N. and the World Bank, 1.2 billion people in the world who live on less than one dollar a day, or put another way, there are 2.8 billion people who live on less than two dollars a day. And in that context this economy becomes so unstoppable, when

you can put a seed into the ground and sustain yourself.

So in fact, coca cultivation has been increasing in southern Colombia. The U.N. did a separate assessment (as opposed to the U.S. assessments) and found that there were several hundred tons more cocaine being produced in Colombia than has been previously estimated. So there's been a real explosion. We also see signs of replanting in Peru and Ecuador and other places where the U.S.

thought they had achieved success.

It's not to say that the peasant farmers are the ones benefiting the most from this economy. Far from it. They're barely able to eek out a living. Typically, they have no running water, no electricity or basic infrastructure. This is not "easy money" for them, but it does provide them with a means of sustaining themselves. However, there's no shortage of middlemen, traffickers and syndicates who are willing to take advantage of this inexhaustible reserve army of poor farmers.

The reason that coca is so attractive to these peasant farmers is that they're farming in regions that have been traditionally abandoned by the state. All the things that we associate with the state—roads, hospitals, police, schools, any kind of infrastructure—just don't exist out in these remote areas. And what happens is that the farmers can grow coca leaf and easily convert that into coca paste, which gets refined later on into pure cocaine in sophisticated labs. They create the coca paste themselves using simple things like gasoline and cement and a few other chemicals. Then the middlemen will come visit their farms either by motorcycle or small boat or plane, pay them cash on the barrelhead, and take the coca paste away for them.

Now, the heart of our policy is to get these peasant farmers to grow hundreds of kilos of so-called legal produce (yucca, plantain, pineapples, what have you) and transport this stuff with vehicles they don't own, on roads that don't exist, to domestic and export markets that they don't have access to, and compete against international agribusiness against which they don't stand a chance.

I just came back from Colombia two weeks ago, and the most disturbing thing that I've found is that there's a cycle of violence that's following our fumigation planes around. First, the paramilitary, either by coincidence or by collusion with the Colombian military, will come into an area before the fumigation planes arrive and push out the guerillas so the fumigation planes aren't shot at. Then the aerial fumigation comes, and the spraying destroys the coca and poppy crops, as well as food crops, fairly indiscriminately. So these peasant farmers are left with no way to feed themselves. And the FARC have realized this. So

they're following our fumigation planes around, knowing that these poor farmers have nowhere to go. And they've been recruiting all the able-bodied people that they can. We've been giving them a recruiting bonanza, which isn't going to help solve the civil war, or any of the underlying problems in Colombia.

Our policy is a very short-sighted one, where the bureaucrats are basically trying to show success through numbers. With Vietnam, it was, "Look how many Viet Cong we've killed." Nowadays it's, "Look how many hectares of coca we've eradicated." What we don't take into consideration is how many more potential hectares are out there that could be cultivated. And that amount is practically inexhaustible.

Megan: I remember your saying once that while many farmers get recruited by the FARC, many others are forced into becoming essentially sharecroppers for the powerful narcotraffickers.

Sanho: Yeah. The narcotraffickers will front them a little bit of money to go out there and clear out more rainforest and buy more coca seeds, and a little money to live on in the meantime. Whereas before, the farmers cleared it out themselves and bought the seeds themselves. Now the peasants are basically acting as tenant farmers, or sharecroppers.

Megan: I know that a small percentage of the Colombia Plan package sends funding to alternative development. How effective is that funding?

Sanho: Very ineffective. It's better than nothing, but that's not saying much. The so-called alternative development plan was something that was tacked on to the Congressional appropriations almost as an afterthought. It's not enough to do anything significant, but it does give members of Congress a fig leaf to say, "Look, we're offering something in return here. We're not just destroying things." But in fact, sustainable alternative development requires a multi-year, long-term, serious commitment.

Last month, Mr. Rand Beers, who is head of the State Department's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), met with some Colombian representatives who had come to DC to oppose U.S. policies, and he told them that he never had any intention of having alternative development in place when the fumigations began. He said that these peasants had to associate fear and pain and suffering with growing coca. He wanted to teach them a "lesson." So we're trying to win the hearts and minds of these peasants, who must cooperate if this plan is to succeed, with fear and pain. We're destroying their livelihood, giving them nothing viable in return, and driving them into the arms of our declared enemies—the paramilitaries, the guerillas, or the narcotraffickers. And that is a fatally flawed policy.

Megan: What does the War on Drugs look like at home, on the domestic end of things?

Sanho: I think it's because of our frustration at our inability to make our drug policy work at home that we are lashing out at our neighbors in this hemisphere, blaming them for our inability to control our insatiable appetite for these substances. The War on Drugs has gotten to the point where we now incarcerate 2

(Continued next page)



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(War on Drugs, continued)

million people. That may seem like an abstract number, but keep in mind there are only 8 million prisoners in the entire world. So we have 1/22th of the world's population, and one quarter of the world's prisoners. Most of that increase happened in the last two decades, largely as a result of the War on Drugs. And of those 2 million, almost a quarter, 458 thousand are behind bars for non-violent drug offenses. The US imprisons 100,000 more persons for drug offenses alone than the entire European Union imprisons for all offenses combined, even though the EU has 100 million more citizens than the US.

Another example: There are almost as many inmates imprisoned nationally for drug offenses today as the entire US prisoner population of 1980 (474 thousand). To paraphrase Ronald Reagan, "Are you safer today than you were twenty-one years ago?" In the same period, states like California built 21 new prisons and one new public university. That happens with many states, where the funding for public higher education and prison systems come out of the same discretionary budget spending pie. There's been a direct correlation between the decreased higher education spending, and increased incarceration funding.

Megan: When you visited Olympia, you talked about how our policies breed "Super Drug Traffickers" — at times faster than law enforcement could even keep up. Could you explain what you meant by that?

Sanho: Yes. The drug economy tends to evolve under Darwinian principles — selection of the fittest. So the people that we manage to lock up tend to be the ones who are dumb enough to get caught. They got careless and were apprehended. The people we tend to leave behind are the ones who are the most adaptable and sophisticated, who tend to be one step ahead of the law. So, for decades now we've had a policy of artificial selection. We've been breeding "Super traffickers." There are those who say, "Well, wouldn't that be the same with any kind of law enforcement?" My response is, "No." It's not like going after purse snatchers, because if there's one purse snatcher or a hundred purse snatchers, the amount of money in that purse is going to be fairly predictable. Prohibition economies tend to produce the opposite effect. When we constrict supplies without reducing demand, it just increases prices. Put another way, if I steal a TV or car stereo, I can only "fence" it for a fraction of its worth because it's illegally obtained property. If I steal drugs, however, I can sell them at much higher prices. That's a function of prohibition.

Megan: I've heard you talk about regulation, instead of prohibition, being the most reasonable drug policy. Could you explain that?

Sanho: Well, we have a gift in our society for regulating things. We regulate every aspect of our society. I can't even sell you a hot dog on the street without getting a license and health certificate. The hot dog I buy must come from a factory that's been certified by licensed inspectors who've gone to accredited universities, and so on — all to make sure that I'm not going to sell you anything

The \$300 Billion Fraud

Glen Anderson

Near the end of the Wizard of Oz movie the humble but brave sojourners reach the City of Oz and Dorothy's little dog Toto pulls away the curtain, exposing the terrible Wizard of Oz as merely a little man pulling levers behind a curtain. Startled at being found out as a fraud, he tells them not to pay attention to the little man pulling levers behind the curtain. His defense is fruitless. His fraud has been exposed, and his power to frighten is gone. September 11 terrorists attacked the Pentagon, the very center of our military power.

Ten years after the end of the Cold War the US has been the ONLY superpower. We have BY FAR the most powerful military on earth. We have thousands of nuclear weapons on hair-trigger alert. The US military alone spends more than the next 15 nations combined.

Yet even with all of this — \$300 billion a year — the Pentagon could not even protect its own building from a few guys with box-cutters! It has been exposed as an ineffectual little man hiding behind a curtain pulling levers — and pulling the wool over our eyes in a \$300 BILLION a year fraud!

You say that nonviolence is a nice idea but it doesn't work...

It turns out that violence — militarism — despite spending hundreds of billions of dollars every year on it — does not work! We really must consider alternative ways to address the problem of violence in the modern world.

Nonviolence deserves serious consideration — and it actually does have a good track record. Nonviolent actions have accomplished historically significant results in opposing violence and oppression in a number of countries. For example, nonviolent action achieved India's independence, gained remarkable successes for the US Civil Rights Movement against entrenched racial oppression, overthrew the Marcos dictatorship in the Philippines, helped several Eastern European countries overthrow Communist dictatorships. The gap is NOT between Americans and terrorists. The gap

is between those who believe violence can solve problems and those who recognize that violence only makes things worse.

Both the terrorists AND the US claim to be the "good guys" fighting a war against evil. The terrorists feel righteous anger at the US and used violence to act on their emotions. When our country expresses our righteous anger through military action we descend to the terrorists' level. Each side feels pain and anger about its own suffering, each side feels justified in venting by using violence against the other, and each side at the receiving end of violence suffers a new round of pain and anger, which — in turn — causes it to feel justified in reacting violently to the other. This is the cycle of violence — a classic "chicken and egg" cycle that repeats and repeats and repeats and repeats... Until nonviolent alternatives interrupt the cycle of violence and start healing.

Bush is playing right into the terrorists' hands. A military response is exactly what they want. They already see themselves as victims — under-dogs — David vs. Goliath. People around the world feel oppressed by the US's domineering political, economic and military power. The terrorists see themselves as representing under-dogs everywhere struggling against the oppressor. A US military attack follows the script that the terrorists have written. The rest of the world can see the US military response and follow the script. While foreign governments might accede to US pressure, hundreds of millions of ordinary people are outraged by the violence used by BOTH sides in this struggle. The US could frustrate the terrorists by refusing to play their game. What the US SHOULD do is begin a comprehensive program of nonviolent alternatives. These could include such remedies as:

- *Really understanding the pain and grievances felt by oppressed people everywhere, and following through with compassionate policies
- *Change our foreign policy to actually supporting democracy and human rights, rather than using other nations to serve narrow US national interests
- *Change our economic activities to reflect concern and justice for the have-

nots, rather than exploiting their economic vulnerability to serve our giant corporations

- *Change from using the US's vast political, economic and military power in a heavy-handed way in the United Nations and other international bodies as one nation like any other, rather than bullying them to do our bidding
 - *Work through international law, upholding international treaties, and playing fair rather than unilaterally acting as if we were above the law.
 - *Recognizing that militarism does not lead to global stability, but only causes ever-shifting instability — and perpetual oppression and injustice
 - *Recognizing nonviolence as a viable basis for national defense and foreign policy
 - *Changing the military budget toward preparing for nonviolent national defense — and toward producing the civilian goods needed for peace in our nation and peace around the world
 - *Establishing a "Truth and Reconciliation" Commission — as has been done in South Africa and several other countries — to publicly research and disclose what our government and specific individuals have done to violate international law and human rights — and to determine how to resolve those matters and move into a better future
- US's virtual monopoly on military power in the post-Cold War era could not even defend its own headquarters building from attack by a few guys with box-cutters! Violence — and militaristic defense — is a wasteful fraud. It just does not work. A violent conflict each side feels its own violence is justified, and each round of violence only makes the other side feel more justified in using the next new round of violence. Therefore, violence is the PROBLEM — NOT the solution! way to break the cycle of violence — and to rise above the ethics of terrorists — is to use nonviolence. Nonviolence actually has a good track record of success — especially in recent decades. Mainstream authorities fail to recognize nonviolence as the wave of the future. Many constructive nonviolent solutions are available to break the cycle of violence. ♦

except 100% ground-up animal parts in that hot dog. But when it comes to dangerous drugs, we choose not to regulate them at all. Prohibition doesn't mean that we control drugs. It means we give up the right to control drugs.

In a prohibition market, the people who enforce contracts and self-regulate are the criminals. The way they settle their differences is at the point of a gun. They can't go to a judge and say, "Your Honor, I've been dealing drugs on this corner for fifteen years, and this upstart just came and took over my corner." No, they tend to shoot it out. So the question is, how can we bring these dangerous substances under the dominion of laws, so we have some control over who has access to this, and — most importantly — we take the outrageous profits out of the system?

Megan: I've heard you encouraging constituents to educate their legislators on

this issue. How can people go about influencing their Congresspeople to change our drug policy?

Sanho: Because we don't live in a democracy (we live in a republic, and a very flawed one at that), we don't go to the polls every time there's a bill up for vote. We elect legislators that do it for us, and they in turn try to get a sense of what their constituency is thinking.

As a member of the Board of the Common Sense Legislative Group, I've talked with many Congressional staff and asked them how does your boss make up his or her mind before a controversial vote. And one of the first things they'll do is ask, "What is the home district saying?" And roughly speaking, if a constituent takes the time to set up a meeting with a member of Congress or their staff, then they assume that maybe there are a thousand people in their district who are

upset about this issue. If they take the time to write a letter, then they think maybe there are 500 people out there who are concerned about this. If they make a phone call, maybe 250. If they forward an email, maybe two people.

My point is that the amount of time a busy constituent is willing to take out of his or her busy day to communicate their feelings about an issue reflects how seriously it will be taken by their representatives. On any issue, no matter what one's beliefs are or what the issue might be, citizens have, at the grassroots level, much more influence over their legislators than many of them realize. Groups like the NRA realize this and progressives need to learn that lesson as well.

For more information, or to get involved with the Olympia Colombia Committee, contact Yul Gamboa at 786-0638. ♦

From Death Row: The New Colonialism

By Mumia Abu-Jamal

Colonies do not cease to be colonies because they are independent.

—Benjamin Disraeli, British statesman

With the news that American political leaders are involved in intense meetings with the deposed King of Afghanistan is the revelation that the United States is trying to install a king over another people.

What's wrong with this, people?

How does it make sense for a nation that calls for democracy to impose, with its guns and military might, a royal house upon a foreign people?

Muhammad Zahir Shah, an octogenarian who was overthrown from the Afghani throne back in 1973, is now living in Rome and is being groomed to be reinstalled in Kabul by the U.S. government.

Gone from his homeland for almost thirty years now (28, to be precise), why does the U.S. want to seat him, when the Afghani people have expressed no significant interest in his return for almost three decades?

It is hard for one to resist the temptation that the U.S. wants to put in a puppet that it can manipulate, control and rule through.

What seems clear is that the U.S. is doing, this time through military means, what it has done before in the region through spy craft.

In the 1950s, the CIA brought about the removal of Iranian premier Muhammad Mossadegh, to return the Shah to power, which in turn led the nation down the road that turned Iran into a repressive state, to keep oil under Western control.

Are the Afghanis somehow too primitive (in U.S. eyes) to appreciate the principle of democracy?

What emerges from this U.S. attempt to install a potentate is the reality that the Americans don't really give a damn about democracy.

Almost all of the states in the region that the U.S. calls allies are as far from democracies as the earth is from the moon. If the U.S. cared about democracies, why has U.S. foreign policy for the last half-century been the protection, sustaining and arming of anti-democratic dictators? From Marcos in the Philippines, Suharto in Indonesia, the Duvaliers in Haiti, to Mobutu in Zaire, and on and on.

Indeed, we need not go that far.

The recent elections in Florida, which featured racial and ethnic profiling of Black, Haitian and Jewish voters there, and thereby denying them the opportunity to meaningfully participate in the U.S. democracy by voting, proves that Americans need not go abroad to protect or promote democracy.

There is something unseemly about a nation that came into being by declaring independence from a king to urge a king upon a foreign people. Democracy begins at home.

Mumia's State Appeal Denied, But Appeal in the Federal Courts is Still Open

Steve Argue

On November 21st Philadelphia State Judge Pamela Dembe rejected death row political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal's appeal to have new evidence heard in state court. That new evidence includes the confession of Arnold Beverly to killing Officer Faulkner, the crime Mumia has been framed of committing.

While this is a major blow to Mumia's legal battle, it is not his final appeal. Mumia's case is still in Federal Court before Judge Yohn. This was an attempt by Mumia's legal team to bring the case back into a state court to hear new evidence. The case has yet to be decided in Federal Court. A decision by Judge Yohn in Federal Court for execution would be Mumia's final legal appeal.

Mumia Abu-Jamal's supporters are calling on people of conscience worldwide to rally for Mumia on the weekend of Dec. 7-9, the 20th anniversary of the incident that led to his frame-up. Student walkouts are planned for Friday, Dec. 7th. A mass protest is planned in Philadelphia on Saturday, Dec. 8th. Dec. 8th and 9th are set for marches, protests, and teach-ins in cities around the world.

A flier about events in Philadelphia can be downloaded from www.mumia.org. For more information, call ICFFMAJ at (215) 476-8812. The government's attempt to murder Mumia Abu-Jamal in 1995 was halted by mass protests and international support, stopping his execution within days of it being scheduled to take place. Continued support for Mumia in the streets will be necessary to keep Mumia alive and free him.

As a freelance journalist Mumia exposed the murderous police brutality and political repression carried out by the police against the MOVE organization in Philadelphia. That murderous repression was then directed at Mumia Abu-Jamal in 1981.

On September 4th, Sam Jordan, Director of the Amnesty International USA Program to Abolish the Death Penalty, gave speeches on the innocence of Mumia Abu-Jamal in Durban, South Africa, in connection with the UN Conference on Racism. Other prominent endorsers of Mumia's campaign include the European Parliament, Nelson Mandela, the Congressional Black Caucus, The Rev. Jesse Jackson, and many unions in the United States and around the world.

The frame-up trial of Mumia twenty years ago included the testimony of three eyewitnesses (Veronica Jones, William Singletary, and Robert Chobert) who later said they were threatened, coerced, or made promises by the police to get them to give false testimony against Mumia.

False evidence against Mumia also included a supposed confession to the police by Mumia the night he was arrested. The original police report by Officer Gary Wakshul who was with Mumia the entire time through his arrest and medical treatment stated, "during this time the Negro male made no com-

ment." Yet Gary Wakshul testified at Mumia's trial that he heard Mumia confess that night. Gary Wakshul didn't "remember" this confession until almost three months after Mumia's arrest when prosecutor McGill met with police asking for a confession. Officer Wakshul absurdly stated that he didn't think the confession was important at the time he wrote his original report.

This past August 17th Mumia was not even allowed into his own hearing in State Court on the incredible excuse that there was no room for Mumia to be transferred to a Philadelphia jail where the hearing was taking place.

Mumia's exile from his own hearing was reminiscent of 20 years ago, when Mumia was barred from attending his own trial. At that time Mumia was convicted in his absence. Judge Albert Sabo claimed that Mumia was barred for being disruptive. Yet court records have now revealed that Sabo barred Mumia from his own trial at the request of Mumia's incompetent and now disbarred defense attorney, Anthony Jackson. The court appointed attorney made his request on the grounds that Mumia was about to fire him and would if Mumia wasn't barred from the trial. Sabo's granting of Jackson's request was a clear violation of Mumia's right to legal representation of his choice and of his right to be present at his own trial.

This past May Mumia's attorneys dropped a legal bombshell by submitting into court a sworn affidavit that contains the confession of Arnold Beverly to the murder that Mumia is accused of committing.

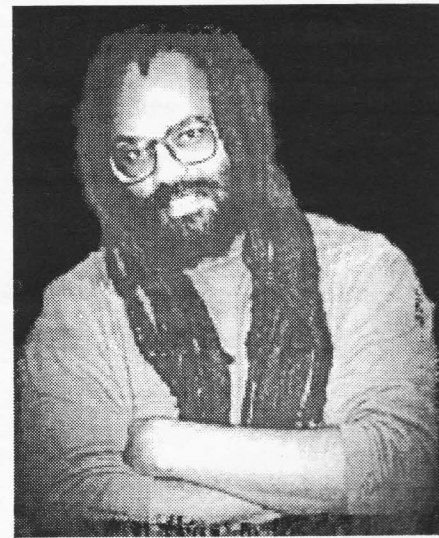
The new evidence the court is refusing to hear includes the confession of Arnold Beverly who states in his sworn affidavit, "I shot Faulkner at close range." Faulkner was the cop Mumia is framed for killing. Beverly also states very clearly, "Faulkner was shot in the back and in the face before Jamal came on the scene. Jamal had nothing to do with the shooting."

Arnold Beverly's confession is corroborated by eyewitness statements. Beverly says he was wearing a green army jacket the night he shot Faulkner. William Singletary was there the night of the shooting. He says he saw a man shoot Faulkner and it was not Mumia.

He also states that the actual killer was wearing a green army jacket.

Four eyewitnesses, including two cops, put a man wearing a green army jacket on the scene. Five eyewitnesses described a man fleeing the scene the way Beverly describes he did. Mumia of course was not running anywhere, he was lying on the ground with a bullet in his chest.

According to Arnold Beverly, Mumia arrived on the scene after Beverly had already shot Faulkner. Beverly says that Mumia was then shot by an arriving officer. The prosecution claims that Mumia was shot by Faulkner in self defense as Faulkner laid on the ground dying. Yet Beverly's story does fit with forensic evidence and the report of a cop at the scene that night. The cop stated that Mumia was shot by an arriving



officer. The downward trajectory of the bullet into Mumia's chest also makes it physically impossible for Faulkner to have shot Mumia from the ground. In fact five hours after the shooting a police medical examiners report states that Mumia "was shot subsequently by arriving police reinforcements."

On every level Arnold Beverly's sworn confession to a capital offence is in fact backed up by evidence while the prosecution's version of events is not. This, however, has not been cause enough for the prosecution to reconsider pushing for the execution of an innocent man. Instead they are arguing that the new evidence was not brought forward in a timely manner.

Ramona Africa spoke on this point at demonstration of 3,000 for Mumia on August 17th stating, "Judge Dembe has said she wants, in three weeks, some briefs to determine whether or not it's too late to prove his innocence, whether or not this information comes too late. We're saying it's never too late! What is she talking about, too late? We ain't interested in legalities. We're interested in what's right. Slavery was legal, but that wasn't right! Apartheid was legal but that wasn't right! The murder of Shaka Sankofa down in Texas, despite his innocence, was legal but that wasn't right! We don't care about legality. We care about justice and what is right."

Mumia's attorney, Eliot Grossman put forward important legal arguments on why the 60 day limit should not apply to Beverly's confession which was first made in 1999. He pointed out that Mumia's former, and fired, legal team of Leonard Weinglass and Dan Williams misinformed Mumia that they were investigating Arnold Beverly's confession when in fact they never had any intention of presenting it for evidence. Williams makes this point clear in his new book *Executing Justice* where he states that he doesn't believe the Beverly confession and that he doesn't believe the police would ever frame up an innocent man. These attorneys allowed the 60 day time line to expire without Mumia's permission or knowledge.

Mumia fired Weinglass and Williams after Williams betrayed attorney client confidentiality in May by publishing the money making book, *Executing Justice*, purported to be an insiders account of Mumia's case. The publication of the book at a critical time in Mumia's appeal

(Continued next page)

(Mumia, continued)

process shows that Williams was not looking out for Mumia's legal interests. Weinglass also knew the book was coming out, but did not inform Mumia. This, like their treatment of the Arnold Beverly confession, was a betrayal of the interests of their client and shows that they were not adequately representing him.

In July Mumia's new legal team filed a petition to suspend legal proceedings in federal court in order to pursue these new legal challenges in the state court. Now that those petitions are denied the case continues to be reviewed in Federal Court.

Mumia had not gotten any favorable rulings in federal court either. There, Judge Yohn has already ruled that Beverly's confession is inadmissible citing the Anti-Terrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act signed into law by Bill Clinton in 1996. The act, among other things, sets a time limit of one year for death row inmates to present new evidence. Yohn echoed the prosecution by falsely stating the "petitioner chose not to present his claim to the state court or even to this court until May 2001."

Yohn's chilling decision also cited the infamous 1993 Herrera decision that proof of innocence is no bar for execution. In addition, according to Clinton's 1996 Anti-Terrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act, a decision for execution in Yohn's court will be Mumia's final legal appeal.

Faced with this situation Mumia's legal team saw the need to attempt a hearing with the new evidence in state court. Yet the rulings and statements of both Judge Dembe and Judge Yohn, along with those of Judge Sabo before them, are in effect saying that an American court of law is no place for evidence proving Mumia's innocence.

Judge Sabo presided over Mumia's original frame-up trial, but he didn't just do that. He came out of retirement to rule against Mumia at subsequent appeal hearings on whether Mumia got a fair trial. At these hearings Sabo ruled that Sabo had not violated Mumia's legal rights by denying him legal representation of his choice and denying him the right to attend his own trial.

Judge Sabo also ruled for the prosecution against the admissibility of the testimony of a key eyewitness in the original trial, Veronica Jones, who stated that she was coerced through threats from the police into giving false testimony against Mumia in the original trial. Jones was a prostitute who says that the police threatened her with prison on warrants and of taking her children away if she didn't say what the police wanted. She was later arrested off of the witness stand on a petty warrant while she told the truth testifying at the hearing for a new trial. This testimony was important evidence of the fact that a frame-up had taken place. Yet Sabo did not allow a new trial based on this information or any of the other evidence brought forward.

Another key ingredient missing in the prosecution's case against Mumia is a motive. Beverly's confession, however, does contain a clear motive. Beverly states, "I was hired, along with another guy, and paid to shoot and kill Faulkner. I had heard that Faulkner was a problem for the mob and corrupt policemen because he interfered with the graft and

sponsoring this community gathering with Jim Hightower. We'll talk about coalition building and the upcoming "Rolling Thunder Chautauqua Tour" designed to help forge new coalitions among local progressive groups and to strengthen existing coalitions. The event is free and open to the public at Olympia World News, 116 East 4th, Olympia on Friday December 7th, from 4 - 5pm.

ARTWROC

Saturday, December 8th, from 4-8pm at Fertile Ground Guest House, the lovely bed and breakfast in downtown Olympia at 311 9th Avenue

ARTWROC has become the annual fundraiser for the south sound area WROC chapter. We have been very busy offering Know Your Rights Clinics and other trainings to low income parents for free all year. We always provide child care and a meal at WROC events.

ARTWROC will raise the funds to make sure this work can continue. Also, it is a great party. This year promises to be a great time for all who come. We have already received many art and craft donations: paintings, photographs, hand made drums and candles. We have local musicians, Vince Brown and Eliza Welch to play us swing tunes on the guitar and fiddle.

If you are a low income member of our community, this is an opportunity to join us for an afternoon with good food, fun and music. There will be smaller craft items that might make affordable presents. We have a sliding scale door charge of \$2 through \$5, but if you volunteer to help with the event, there is no charge.

If you are not low income, WROC

payoffs made to allow illegal activity including prostitution, gambling, drugs without prosecution in the center city area."

The entire chain of police command that "investigated" Mumia have in fact since been removed from the Philadelphia police force for corruption. At the time Faulkner was killed in December 1981, the FBI was involved in at least three investigations of the police in the center city area for corruption including extortion and bribery connected to the mob, prostitution, after-hours clubs, and gambling in the center city area. Targeted in the FBI investigation were Inspector Alphonzo Giordano, the senior cop at the scene of Faulkner's shooting, James Carlini, head of homicide, and John DeBenedetto, head of the division where Faulkner worked.

Witnesses and informants in the FBI investigation were murdered. This included a witness who testified against DeBenedetto in 1983.

Police concern that Faulkner may have been an FBI informant could easily have led to his murder. Donald Hersing who was a source for the FBI at the time testifies in an affidavit for the defense that the Philadelphia cops were very concerned about possible FBI informants at the time. In a similar situation the LAPD Rampart cop who blew the whistle on police corruption and murder in LA was released from prison this summer. He immediately went into hiding out of fear for his life from fellow officers.

needs your support. ARTWROC is a great opportunity to find unique and beautiful gifts. I am always impressed at the richness of talents in our community when I discover the people I have worked alongside are painters, photographers, jewelers.

Please help WROC to continue to empower low income people in the south sound area. Please call 352-9716 if you need more information, would like to make an art donation, or want to volunteer.

Are You HIV+ And Not Receiving Medical Services?

United Communities AIDS Network (UCAN) is starting a new outreach project in November. UCAN will be trying to locate and contact HIV+ people who are aware of their positive status and are not receiving medical services. UCAN will be reaching out to all HIV+ persons within rural and urban Thurston County who have urgent medical needs but may lack the information, insurance, and money to access available services.

UCAN will help set up two free visits with a medical provider to run viral load and CD4+ tests, deliver results, and discuss possible treatment options - if the client chooses to pursue medication.

UCAN will pay clients 40\$ in food vouchers to attend two medical appointments, assist with transportation, and work with clients on a one-to-one basis to help overcome whatever obstacles may stand in the way of accessing services.

Supportive organizations and individuals can assist most by referring HIV+ persons not receiving medical services to UCAN's outreach worker. The outreach worker can be reached by cell phone at 561-6120; or at UCAN's office at 352-2375. Volunteer opportunities are available to assist in community outreach efforts.

Attorney Eliot Grossman stated at a press conference, "Mumia Abu-Jamal was in the wrong place at the wrong time when a hit was in progress on a police officer causing problems interfering with police corruption." But for the Philadelphia police he was at the right place at the right time. He had exposed the murderous police violence used against the MOVE organization. Corrupt police officers used the opportunity to kill two birds with one stone.

Today that conspiracy to murder Mumia Abu-Jamal includes judges, DAs, key Democrat and Republican politicians, and the corporate media who are doing everything they can to prevent the truth from being heard.

Mumia has sat on death row for the past 20 years, removed from his family. Yet he now stands out as an uncompromising voice for the oppressed and exploited. Many have called him the voice of the voiceless. Mumia stands up for unions, against war, against racism, for equality for gays and lesbians, for the poor, against the many injustices of the so-called criminal justice system, for the people, and against the government. Mumia speaks up on many of the issues ignored, lied about, or glossed over by the corporate media and the corporate politicians. We need Mumia, we need him alive, and we need him free. Yet all of the evidence shows that Mumia won't get justice in America's capitalist courts unless we turn up the heat. ♦

Olympia FOR Acts Dramatically Bring Nonviolence to New Audiences

by Andra Weddington

Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation's Decade of Nonviolence Committee has approved a dramatic new project - dramatic in the literal sense. We've accepted a proposal to mount a theatrical production based on the book *Peace Tales* by Margaret Read MacDonald. The book is a collection of folktales from all around the world, contrasting violent and non-violent approaches to conflict. The stories vary in tone from drama to humor, and the key word is variety. In a nutshell, the message is that there are viable alternatives to violence.

theatre production will present these tales with live actors who will assume many different roles throughout the performance, portraying both human and animal characters. Color and variety will be supplied by hand-painted masks and bright fabrics used as simple costume pieces. production will tour within a 45 mile radius of Olympia, to schools, churches, prisons, and any other group willing to host a performance. It will be a case of "have play; will travel." A very flexible approach to staging will allow performances in a wide variety of settings and spaces.

project director is Andra Weddington. She is new to Olympia and brings 40 years of experience in educational theatre as an actor, director, scenic designer, and teacher of acting. we're still in the process of obtaining permissions to use all the stories, indications are positive, so we hope to begin rehearsals in January, and begin performing in the spring. first thing we'll need is actors! We need an ensemble of 3 men and 3 women over the age of 18 and physically fit, as the production will be physically demanding. Previous experience in theatre is a plus, but not required. What we really need are energy and enthusiasm, the ability to memorize text, the ability to move freely, the ability to commit to at least 3 rehearsals a week, and the ability to adapt to the unexpected. we're also looking for a rehearsal space. It needs to have at least 20'x30' of open space and a small closet where we can store backdrops, masks, costume pieces, etc., between rehearsals. The actual rehearsal schedule will be determined by the actors' schedules - and by when the space may be available.

January, we'll need folks who can help find bookings, publicize performances, and such. We'll also need some "roadies" to help loading in and out of performances, transporting, setting up, and striking the set. the project interests you, and you'd like to be part of it, contact Andra Weddington at:

(360) 491-8572 or
gwalchmai4@home.com

(Discrimination, continued)

consider including "Use of Federal Housing Subsidy" as a protected class in the proposed Non-Discrimination Ordinance as the City of Tumwater has already done. I am very concerned about the fact that it is currently legal in most of this county for landlords to refuse to rent to a tenant for participating in a government program to assist them in paying rent. I already know you'll do the right thing by including protections for Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals and Transgendered (GLBT) citizens.

The Section 8 tenant-based assistance is effective in helping families afford rental housing. The Section 8 program administered by the Housing Authority has tenant-based subsidies attached to an individual tenant. The tenant chooses which apartment to rent. The tenant pays a certain percentage of her income toward rent and the subsidy is paid directly to her landlord for the remainder of the rent. When the tenant moves, she can take the tenant-based subsidy with her and use it to rent another apartment. The public housing authority selects which people get vouchers. It also makes sure that tenants and private landlords comply with all voucher program requirements. One of the key requirements for landlords is that apartments meet the federal housing quality standards. The public housing authority inspects the apartment before the tenant moves in

and then annually to ensure the program is not paying for apartments in bad condition. The landlord decides how much rent to charge. Tenants with vouchers generally pay a percentage of their income toward rent depending on the total rent charged. The public housing authority determines the amount the voucher will pay toward the rent.

Many of our community's mentally disabled and physically disabled including those living with AIDS participate in the Section 8 voucher program as do many seniors. While current state and federal laws protect these folks from discrimination based on their ability or age, landlords can discriminate against them for their use of a federal housing subsidy and consequently refuse them housing. Landlords who do not want to rent to the disabled or some seniors use a form of allowable discrimination to mask their true reasons for not renting to these vulnerable tenants, which would be illegal on its own. By including protections for those that participate in the Section 8 program in a non-discrimination ordinance, a loophole that allows landlords to discriminate will be closed.

Volunteers at the Thurston County Tenants Union have talked with tenants who have experienced the setback of having their actual or prospective landlord refuse to rent to them because of their attempted use of a housing voucher or because they are GLBT. Those tenants have lost credit /screening fees,

have faced penalties for vacating, and, most frustratingly, have lost their voucher or housing subsidy. No one should be denied housing because of who they are or what government programs they participate in.

All tenants deserve fair treatment. Landlords should not be allowed to refuse a tenant housing without a good reason — and just because the tenant uses a voucher should not be considered a good reason. This protection will not cost anything, it is simple to understand, it closes a loophole which allows for discrimination and retaliation to occur without recourse, and lastly, it is a basic issue of fairness. By including "Use of Federal Housing Subsidy" as a protected class in the proposed Non-Discrimination Ordinance, it would enable voucher-holders to stand on roughly equal footing with ordinary renters.

The public can comment on the proposed law to ban housing discrimination in writing beforehand or at a hearing at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 13 at the Thurston County Courthouse, 2000 Lakeridge Drive S.W., Building 1, Olympia.

For more information about this Campaign call the Thurston County Tenants Union at 360/943-3036 or stop by our office at 203 E. 4th Ave #412 in downtown Olympia. ♦

Salvation Army Bell-Ringers to Receive Messages Not Money as

PFLAG Launches "Kettle Protest"

Local chapters of Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians and Gays have launched a project to educate the Salvation Army about the danger of their discriminatory policies towards gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered (GLBT) people.

PFLAG members will drop notices [or Queer Dollars] in Salvation Army kettles in lieu of a donation throughout the holiday season. The project was conceived by PFLAG Genesee County, Michigan and has been adopted by many of PFLAG's 470 affiliates nationwide. PFLAG Genesee County's "reminder bills" state "I would have donated \$5 dollars, but the Salvation Army's decision to discriminate against gay and lesbian employees prevents my donation now and in the future. Change your discriminatory policy."

Mary Scholl, President of PFLAG's Genesee County chapter says, "We support organizations working to address poverty in our communities. However, we cannot support an organization that discriminates against our loved ones. We intend to give to charitable organizations that understand and accept gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons as equal citizens, entitled to the same consideration as every other person."

Plans to use the Salvation Army's red kettles as an educational vehicle were already underway when the national Salvation Army derailed a new policy of their western division granting benefits to Salvation Army employees' domestic partners. Earlier this month the Salvation Army announced a new national policy denying their divisions the power to set employee benefits and limiting coverage to heterosexual spouses and dependent children.

The kettle protest idea spread via e-mail and soon other PFLAG groups had signed on. Donna Blaha, President of PFLAG Glenview, Illinois, said "typically I'll drop some money into a kettle each time I see it. But after the Salvation Army's very public actions this year against the GLBT community, I'll think of my lesbian daughter and gay son and drop in a reminder bill instead."

PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons, their families and friends through support, education and advocacy. Serving more than 84,000 members and supporters, PFLAG's more than 470 chapters and affiliates are located in communities across the United States.

Queer Dollars may be downloaded and printed out at: <http://hometown.aol.com/aracleveland/queerdollar.html>

Non-Discrimination Statutes and Policies in Thurston County

Compiled by Anna Schlecht for the Black Hills Alliance
PO Box 7221 Olympia, WA 98507

The following is a compendium of local laws and government policies regarding non-discrimination affecting the gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, and trans-gender community [as well as the rest of us]. Each law or policy is listed with a brief synopsis of intent and scope and the year of adoption. To obtain a copy of the actual text of the statute or policy or for more information, please contact the City or County directly.

Thurston County =====

1987 **Equal Opportunity Bulletin** - County policy that provides for equal opportunity in County employment, services, and activities on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical handicap.

City of Lacey =====

1993 **Hate Crimes Penalties** - Municipal ordinance that provides for the penalties for crimes motivated by hatred on the basis of the victim's real or perceived color, age, gender, marital status, race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or national origin.

1994 **Unfair Housing Practices** - Municipal ordinance that proscribes discrimination in housing practices on the basis of the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability or the use of a trained guide dog or service dog by a disabled person, race, color, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, families with children status, or sexual orientation.

1997 **Equal Opportunity Employer and Service Provider** - Municipal policy that proscribes discrimination in all employment practices and municipal services delivery on the basis of color, age, gender, marital status, race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or national origin.

City of Tumwater =====

1994 **Unfair Housing Practices** - Municipal ordinance that proscribes discrimination in all housing practices on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, disability, familial status, sexual orientation, or use of federal housing assistance.

1996 **Hate Crime Penalties** - Municipal ordinance that provides for the penalties for crimes motivated by hatred on the basis of the victim's real or perceived race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or mental, physical, or sensory handicap.

1997 **Employment Practice** - Municipal resolution that proscribes discrimination in employment practice on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, physical handicap, age, or sexual orientation.

1997 **Affirmative Action Program** - Municipal resolution promotes an Affirmative Action Program on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, physical handicap, age, and sexual orientation.

1997 **Domestic Partner Benefits Plan** - Municipal ordinance providing

for the offering of domestic partner benefits to the domestic partners of City employees, including the "soft" benefits of leave taking, and the "hard" benefits of medical and dental plan inclusion.

1999 **Domestic Partner Registry** - Creation of Domestic Partner Registry for couples willing to sign an affidavit and pay a fee to receive a certificate of domestic partnership. Certificate conveys no tangible legal or financial benefits. Certificates are available to eligible Tumwater residents only.

2001 **Equal Benefits Plan** - Municipal ordinance requiring eligible city contractors to offer benefits to the domestic partners of their workers if they already offer those benefits to the married spouses of their workers.

City of Olympia =====

1986 **Discrimination in Delivery of City Services or Resources** - Municipal ordinance that proscribes discrimination in the delivery of city services or other resources on the basis of race, creed, color, age, sexual orientation, national origin, sex, the presence of any physical, mental or sensory disability.

1986 **Equal Employment Opportunity/Workforce Diversity** - Municipal policy prohibiting discrimination in employment practice on the basis of race, creed, color, age, sexual orientation, national origin, sex, the presence of any physical, mental or sensory disability.

1993 **Hate Crime Penalties** - Municipal ordinance that provides for the penalties for crimes motivated by hatred on the basis of the victim's real or perceived race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or mental, physical, or sensory handicap.

1995 **Domestic Partner Benefits Plan** - Municipal ordinance providing for the offering of domestic partner benefits to the domestic partners of City employees, including the "soft" benefits of leave taking, and the "hard" benefits of medical and dental plan inclusion.

1997 **Unfair Housing Practices** - Municipal ordinance that proscribes discrimination in all housing practices on the basis of the victim's real or perceived color, religion, ancestry, national origin, familial status, gender, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, the use of a trained guide dog or service animal by a disabled person, marital status, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

1999 **Domestic Partner Registry** - Creation of Domestic Partner Registry for couples willing to sign an affidavit and pay a fee to receive a certificate of domestic partnership. Certificate conveys no tangible legal or financial benefits. Certificates are available to eligible Olympia residents only.

2001 **Equal Benefits Plan** - Municipal ordinance requiring eligible city contractors to offer benefits to the domestic partners of their workers if they already offer those benefits to the spouses of their workers.

(Shopping, continued)

about perception (see below). The Olympia Downtown Business Association shoots itself in the foot by constantly bringing up how dangerous downtown is in the hopes to project how safe it is. **THAT IS STUPID!**

Not everyone's needs can be met within the confines of downtown — people will live elsewhere, work elsewhere, recreate elsewhere, shop elsewhere, and hang-out elsewhere. The city could go much further in developing downtown with other regulations than those targeted at folks who already value downtown by eliminating sprawl and capping the size of outlying retail stores. The downtown business association should lead such a move, but they won't even speak out against their biggest threat: Wal-Mart. Instead the business association is willing to bite the hands that feed them, in the hopes that more/bigger hands are in the wings just waiting.

Perception & Discrimination

People of different classes dress and behave differently just as people from different cultures do. Those differences should not be the basis for assumptions about those people or as a reason to feel unsafe. White America used to be afraid (some still are) of blacks, natives, Japanese and gays & lesbians. Those attitudes are the problems of the perceiver and should not be made the responsibility of the target.

Unfortunately, poverty is not a protected status and so discrimination based on it is permitted (to some). What is right is not always a matter of law. What is legal is not always right. Our recent past shows how the faces, abilities and manners of diversity have changed (as they will continue to change to finally include everyone). Not too long ago women neither had the right to vote nor could buy a car; racial segregation was tolerated and enforced by law against people of color; and homosexuality was seen as a disease. Imagining laws against

these classes today is as outrageous and backwards as our children will see the proposed Olympia ordinances against poverty and the homeless now taking form.

Get Involved

Let the downtown businesses that you frequent know that you oppose the targeting that is taking form in your name and on their behalf.

If you have time to circulate petitions, you can pick up blank ones from Olympia World News (OWN), 116 4th Ave and Bread & Roses (B&R), 114 Cherry St. — both in downtown Olympia. These public petitions can be circulated at random by as many people as possible. Return completed petitions to OWN or B&R.

If you want to get involved with talking directly to businesses or have questions or would like to get involved in another way, please call Pat at 705-2726. We are open to creative forms of protest too! ♦

Scenes from the Works In Progress Benefit!

The evening of November 17 was a night to remember. Over 115 people packed Oly World News to hear some of our town's finest musicians and raise a whopping \$530 for Works In Progress.

Funds will be put towards printing the very paper staining your fingers with its politically-infused inkiness right now. As the non-profit, volunteer-based alternative to the Gannett-owned newspaper, the bucks raised will be a big help for our 11 year-old paper.

A big thanks goes out to the guitar-slinging songsters that packed the benefit with four straight hours of incredible, home-grown music. Rebecca Pearcy kicked things off, agreeing to brave the opening slot. Pearcy's voice conveys mounds of emotion, yet remains unbelievably smooth.

Playing for just over twenty minutes, Pearcy left the audience craving more. Fortunately she has CDs, including Sea Deep Sky High on Yoyo Recordings.

Sandman's madcap style and amiable stage presence made him a crowd favorite. Olympia's own 'hip-hop cowboy' transitioned from country-folk songs about his car and his job to raps about love and Quadafi set to the beat-boxing rhythms of people he pulled from the crowd.

After a too-long hiatus, Jason Traeger was back in action. Traeger performed all new songs about love and love lost, and his secret lust for chickens. Sex Chicken left the crowd in stitches.

Andras Jones came next. Haggard and bleary-eyed from seven months on the road promoting his album A Curmudgeon For All Seasons, Jones was still able to fill a full hour with a passionate, politically-tinged performance. His topical songs took on the recent flurry of flag waving, our forgetting that Bush Junior stole the election, and a raging anti-Thanksgiving ditty called 'Thwack'. Jones also recorded the full night of performances, which may be released in the future — after Jones completes his new album, set to be recorded this month.

High-tailing it from a Built To Spill concert that same night in Seattle in which he performed with former Halo Bender band-mates, Calvin Johnson

took the stage in the nick of time to close out the concert. The local icon and K Records chieftain mesmerized the crowd with kooky songs of love and abstract numbers sung a capella with deep-voiced chanting.

Thanks also goes out to the folks at Oly World News for donating their upstairs Logos Lounge for the benefit and for serving up hot coffee, cold beers, and great food.

More photos of the concert will be available online at www.olywa.net/wip. Photos by Britt Olson.



Rebecca Pearcy



Sandman, solo and with audience participant.
<www.olywa.net/sandman>



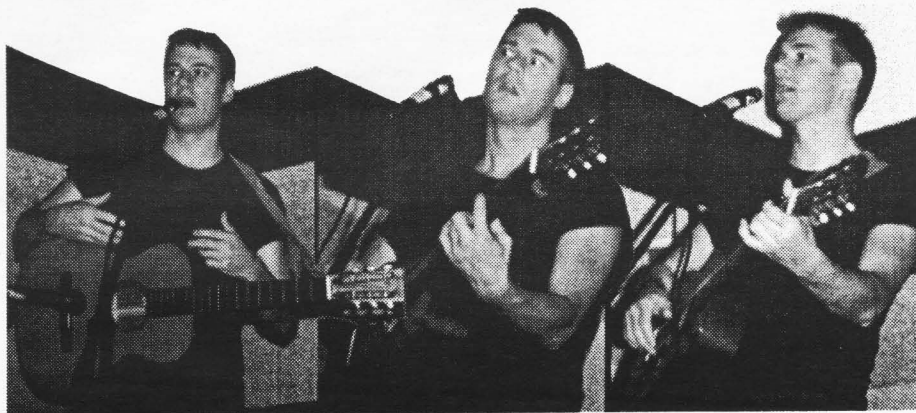
Jason Traeger

<www.kpunk.com/jasontraeger>



Andras Jones

<www.olywa.net/previous>



Calvin Johnson

<www.kpunk.com>

LocalHistory101**What Your Money Buys In Downtown Olympia**

This guide is an attempt to help you spend your dollars wisely in Olympia. As citizens we must realize that one of the realities open to us is to vote with our money and let companies know what you are/are not buying and why. We don't just buy a product with a purchase; we not only support an economic system with it, but we also support the working conditions and the political environment of the company as well. This guide is meant to help connect you with the history of activism that has gone on here and continues to go on throughout the world. Not everything in the world is covered here, and nothing was intentionally left out even though much is left out. There are no easy answers and this is not meant as a substitute for grassroots organizing on behalf of the environment, workers, and other facets of our world and society.

Local stores keep money local, however, promote certain agendas and have taken sides on social issues. Some downtown businesses have formed the Olympia Downtown Association (which is funded in part by the City of Olympia) and have initiated and lobbied the city to enact certain targeted laws (at homeless and/or youth):

- 1986 - Criminalization of Skateboarding
- 1987 - Outlawing of Teen Dance Clubs
- 1990 - Criminalization of Loud Car Stereos
- 1991 - Outlawing of Cruising
- 1993 - Criminalization of "Aggressive Panhandling"
- 1994/5 - Attempted Stop of Transitional Housing for Homeless (Fleetwood)
- 1995 - Proposed Criminalization of Car Camping
- 1995 - Proposed Outlawing of Fortified Wine
- 1996 - Outlawing of OAPP Needle Exchange
- 1996/7 - Attempted Banning of Sitting on the Sidewalk
- 1999/2000 - Criminalization of Graffiti

Below the good news (+) comes first in each category followed by the names of businesses that have taken bad social justice positions on particular issues (-):

Businesses in Support of Graffiti Walls

- (+) Supporters: Chris' New Moon Cafe, Dumpster Values, Midnight Sun, Old School Pizzeria, Olympia Film Society, Otto's Bagels, Thekla
- (-) Opponents: The ODA

No Sitting On The Sidewalk City Ordinance

- (+) Opponents: Always Safe and Lock, Brown & Balsley Sign, Olympia World News, Cascadia Research, Childhood's End, Danger Room Comics, Earth Magic, Five Corners, Fuji Teriyaki, Hauti Hats, Jamie Lee & Co., K Records, Kill Rock Stars, Kundalini Coffee, Midnight Sun, Mini Saigon, Old School Pizzeria, Tee's Me, MIXX 96, Whole Earth Imports, Working Systems Inc., YoYo Prod.
- (-) Supporters: The Spar, Washington Center, Dean Whitter's, King Solomon's, Gold's Gym, Coast Office Supplies

The Fleetwood Low Income Housing Project

- (+) Supporters: Traditions Cafe, David Stein & Associates, Thekla, Danger Room Comics, Electric Rose Tattoo, Five Corners, Olympia World News, Fish Brewing, Budd Bay Realty, Radiance, Archibald Sisters, Jamie Lee & Co., Looks Hair Design
- (-) Opponents: Applebaum Violin Shop, Audio Northwest, B&B Auto, Bartels, Castle Enterprises, CD Connection, Chatterry Down, Coast Office Supplies, Cuda Construction, Deskoba Inc., Especially Made Designs, Hodges Inc., Jinjor, JR Roofing, Key Bank, Koehler's Furniture, Little Richards, Lynch Paint, Olympia Printing, Panowicz, Pizzazz, Salvation Army, Storman's (Bayview and Ralph's Thriftway), Urban Onion, US Marine Sales, Walt's Radiator, Washington Center, Washington Travel, Wind Up Here

Farmworker Boycott (WA Winery)

- (+) Supporters: Ben Moore, Chatterry Down, Gardner's, Henry C's, Patrick's, Urban Onion
- (-) Particularly nasty opponents include Budd Bay, Genoa's, St. Martin's, Coast Office Supply, Olive Garden

Farmworker Boycott (OR's PCUN Gardenburger)

- (+) Supporters: Olympia Food Co-Op, TESC, Budd Bay, Darby's, Sara's Kitchen, Pipers Lady
- (-) Opponents: Urban Onion, Falls Terrace

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Rights

- (+) Active Supporters (as advertised in Capital Q): Altered States, Archibald Sisters, Baidorf & Bronson, Darby's Cafe, Hannah's Tavern, Jamie Lee & Co, Mike Cook's Antiques, MIXX 96, Olympia Food Co-Op, S. Don Phelps-Attorney, Radiance, Rainy Day Records, Shakti Cove Cottages, Sigafos & Witcher, Thekla, Turmwater Travel Service, Wild Grace Arts; (also see Pink Pages)

- (-) **Anti-Union Establishments:** Urban Onion/Elyse's Potpourri, The Spar, Capital Coachman, Henry C's, Burrito Heaven (under former owner)

- (-) **Anti-Native Establishments** (with a Smoke-Shop Indian Carving): The Spar, Cigarettes Cheaper



WORKS IN PROGRESS

DECEMBER 2001

F R E E



The Income Scales of Justice

- 1 -
Olympia Laws
Criminalize Poverty
&
Non-Discrimination
Ordinance Should Protect
Poor Too

- 5 -
Application For Sister
Sister in Nicaragua

- 8 -
Up Front
America's Challenge

- 10 -
Columbia and the
War on Drugs

- 12 -
Mumia Faces
Legal Lynching

Why are corporate vultures pouncing on Pacifica Radio?



GET IT WHILE IT'S HOT! Tea, coffee and the second hour of Democracy NOW! in Exile on VIDEO every Monday night from 7pm to 9pm at Media Island (816 S. Adams in downtown Olympia, next to Oly Library). Come watch award winning journalist Amy Goodman present multifaceted news with in-depth interviews from people all around the world. Enjoy good company and bring your own mug, dairy and/or sweetener.

CHANGE IS IN THE WIND AT KAOS. For updates visit the KAOS Listeners for Democracy NOW! website: <www.morelater.com/kaos>

Works In Progress
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